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Let's

ISSUE 82 AUG 2014

knit

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welcome to *Let's* knit

Meet the team...



DEPUTY EDITOR
Adrienne Chandler
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This month...

I've been putting together some very persuasive reasons for

having a go at crochet – it's a fabulous craft, you'll love it! See what I have to say on page 61. I also demonstrate circular knitting on page 75.

My favourite project: Party Time, (p53)



EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
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This month...

I've been chatting to two online knitting designers with very

distinctive styles for a feature on the weird wide web! But let's not think about how long I've spent on Ravelry...

My favourite project... Daisy Chain (p67)



EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
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This month...

I've been dreaming of the heavenly scent of lavender

by picking my favourite purple yarns (p74) and enjoying your lovely letters as usual (p50)!

My favourite project...
Happy Camper (p27)

Need to get in touch?

Pattern queries:
call 01206 508622 or email
support@letsknit.co.uk

Advertising enquiries:
call Julie Freestone on 01206 505913 or
email julie.freestone@aceville.co.uk

Subscription queries:
call 0844 844 0947 or email
letsknit@servicehelpline.co.uk



Hello and welcome to the August issue of Let's Knit. This month sees the **100th anniversary** of the outbreak of WW1, and in honour of this Jane Burns has designed a **commemorative** teacosy that you can knit tonight with your free kit. To find out how knitters can help raise money for the **Royal**

British Legion, turn to page 9 for details on Knitting For Victory's great campaign.

Thanks to everyone who put forward their **favourites** for inclusion in our **2014 awards** – we had more nominations than ever this year! Voting is now open and you'll find the shortlist on page 34. You can either use the postal form provided or log on to www.letsknit.co.uk/britishknittingawards to enter online. And you could be a winner too! Over **£500** of knitting goodies from companies featured will be winging its way to one **lucky voter**.

We have a **terrific mix** of projects this issue, from lovely homewares to garments you'll want to wear again and again. I particularly **love** the stylish Parallel Lines t-shirt from Anniken Allis (p41) and Jan Henley's elegant shawl (p86), and I've already made three of Jane Burns' **fab headbands** (p80)! We would love you to share your makes with us on Facebook, Twitter or by emailing katie.wilding@aceville.co.uk

Happy knitting!

Sarah

sarah.neal@aceville.co.uk



Chunky-topped needles (p22)



We're delighted to have an exclusive pattern from renowned hat designer Woolly Wormhead (p46)



Crochet is great for the summer months and we've got 10 fab reasons to try it on page 61



We put my 10 year old daughter Katie through her paces this month! She can be found modelling a jumper on page 57 and a headband on page 80.



Visit www.letsknit.co.uk/britishknittingawards to nominate your favourite shops and brands

JOIN @LETSKNITMAG ON



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DISCLAIMER: We recommend that readers use the main specified yarn for every project as this will produce the best results. The alternatives given are suggestions only, and as no two yarns are exactly the same we advise readers to swatch an alternative yarn carefully before choosing to use it for their project. The publishers are not responsible for any safety issues arising from any items knitted from patterns contained within Let's Knit magazine. Prices are all correct at time of print.

Let's knit

AUGUST 2014

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GIFT!**



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Knit for
charity

**Who
cares?**
...We do!

At **Let's Knit** we understand that nothing is more annoying than errors in knitting patterns. As part of our total commitment to ensuring that your experience of our magazine is as enjoyable as possible, we're proud to offer

THE LET'S KNIT PATTERN PROMISE:

- Exclusive patterns featured in Let's Knit have been professionally checked and reproduced with the utmost care. Updates can be found at www.letsknit.co.uk
- Should you encounter any problems we are more than happy to provide support and assistance. Contact us and we will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

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support@letsknit.co.uk

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By post: at the address on page 95 (please mark your envelope 'Support') (Please note we cannot offer assistance with patterns not published in Let's Knit)

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SOMETHING EXTRA?

A number of vintage knitwear patterns used in the commemorative WW1 film 'Tell The Of Us' have now been released on Ravelry. Find out more at www.orkneytoomaha.wordpress.com



Make & Share

We love seeing what our readers make with their free kits. Share them with us on Facebook and Twitter, or email katie.wilding@aceville.co.uk.



Last month readers tried their hands at lace!



Jan Reed



Lianne Taylor

POPPY BROOCHES

Yarn: (A) Poppy Red, (B) Poppy Black
Needles: 4mm
Buttons: 2cm, black, one; 1.5cm, black, one
Brooch bars: two
Tapestry needles
Tension: 22 sts x 28 rows, 10cm x 10cm, stocking stitch, 4mm needles

PETALS (make three)

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 13 sts
☐ Row 1 (WS): sl 1, p to end
☐ Row 2: sl 1, k to end
☐ Row 3: sl 1, p2tog, p7, p2tog, p1. 11 sts
☐ Row 4: sl 1, k3, sk2po, k4. Nine sts
☐ Row 5: sl 1, p to end
☐ Row 6: sl 1, ssk, k3, k2tog, k1. Seven sts
☐ Row 7: sl 1, p to end
☐ Row 8: sl 1, ssk, k1, k2tog, k1. Five sts

- ☐ Row 9: sl 1, p to end
☐ Cast off

CENTRE

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on seven sts
☐ Rows 1-10: (k1, p1) three times, k1
☐ Cast off

To make up

Darn in ends of petals and arrange in a spiral with each one slightly overlapping the next, using image as a guide. Sew together. For centre, with WS facing, sew a running stitch around outside edge of square centre piece. Lay button in centre and draw up running stitch thread to enclose button. Secure with stitches, sew to centre of poppy. Alternatively, sew black button to centre of poppy with a tapestry needle. Sew brooch bar to back of poppy **LK**



Knit these poppy brooches from the FREE yarn left over from your teacosy. You could even use oddments from your stash to make more brooches and sell them to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.



ALL DOLLED UP

*Knit yourself and your friends using the brilliant adaptable patterns from Jane Bull's latest book, **Crafty Dolls** (published by DK). Featuring over 30 projects to knit and sew, there is a whole section dedicated to the faces, clothes and accessories needed to make a personalised knitted lookalike! **Crafty Dolls** costs £12.99. 0207 010 3000, www.dk.co.uk*

Let's knit LOVES...

OUR ROUND-UP OF WHAT'S HOT IN THE KNITTING UNIVERSE



Socks away!

There are all sorts of ways to name a yarn, and we love the story behind Viridian and Opal's Schafpate range - meaning "sheep godfather". Each of the four variegated shades are named after one of the rare breed German sheep sponsored by Viridian: Thelma, Kim, Hannah and Sunny. The 75% wool, 25% polyamide blend is great for sock knitting, especially as the colourful yarn means that there are no fancy stitches necessary! Find stockists at www.viridianyarn.com



Seeing red

West Yorkshire Spinners has released a brand new pattern collection to support its Aire Valley DK range of pure British yarns. Designed by Jenny Watson and photographed at the beautiful Victorian village of Saltaire, they are versatile knits to suit the whole family. 01535 664500, www.wyspinners.com



ROCK-A-BYE BABY

Stylecraft has released four pretty new shades in Lullaby, the super soft baby yarn launched last year. The accompanying baby patterns combine pastels and brights to create a fresh and contemporary look which is ideal for late-summer babies! Lullaby costs £2.79 per 50g ball. Go to www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk or call 01535 609798 for stockists.

Did you know?

Alpacas are not just useful for their silky soft fleece – due to a natural dislike of foxes, they are also great sheep guards. A knitter's best friend!



WIN!
See p82

POPSICLE PARTY

LK designer Siân Brown has released a brilliant new range of knitting and sewing kits called Make at Home. Inspired by growing up in the 60s and 70s, the colourful designs and seaside feel are right up our street! Go to www.makeathome.co.uk for more!

CHARITY WE LOVE...

Royal British Legion

Marking the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the First World War, August 2014 will be a month of reflection for many of those affected by war – whether it is a century in the past, or currently taking place overseas. Knitting For Victory is a campaign by Verena Tucker to get knitters of all abilities making poppies to raise money for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. The knitted poppies will be worn by celebrities and the Red Arrows, and the campaign has already received yarn donations from Black Sheep Wools, West Yorkshire Spinners, Rowan and Artesano. Find more information about patterns, kits, and events by searching for “Knitting For Victory” on Facebook. And why not use the free poppy pattern and yarn provided with this issue of Let's Knit to get you started?
www.britishlegion.org.uk



Head start

We love Sirdar's brilliant hat-in-a-ball packs! Available in four limited edition shades with a funky contrasting pompom, one ball is all you need to create a distinctive bobble beanie. **01924 371501**, www.sirdar.co.uk



FEELING FOXY

Need help figuring out your needle sizes? Perhaps you've got some stray pins without proper labels? Fear no more, this beautiful needle gauge by Tangerine Designs is here to help sort that stash once and for all. One gauge costs £6.14 from www.tangerine8.etsy.com



FASHION FORWARD

Sheffield's Emma Wright has been named Britain's next top knitwear designer by loveknitting.com! Her garment uses Debbie Bliss Paloma to create contrasting textures and colours, with an open back and bow fastening. She has won fashionwork experience, the opportunity to publish her pattern, and a £1000 cash prize. To see the nine other finalists, go to www.loveknitting.com

PERFECT PORCELAIN

Store your needles and notions in this stylish blue knitted storage jar. Available in three soft pastel colours, it features a chunky cabled knitting design. You can even get matching mugs and a biscuit jar! **0208 886 3000**, www.puji.com





This Month's TOP BUY

We knitters love all things sheepy so it's no wonder these squidgy little felt chaps caught our eye. This string of Counting Sheep fairy lights would look great hung in a cosy knitting corner, strung up in a child's bedroom or used as a decoration for when your knitting chums come over. What's more, the lights are LEDs so they don't even have to be plugged in. Each handmade string of lights costs £23 from www.wowthankyou.co.uk.

Pretty crocheted lace is a huge summer trend! Find the pattern for this simple square top in Sirdar Cotton Crochet #458. www.sirdar.co.uk



August IS THE MONTH...

...OF SUNSHINE, HOLIDAYS AND KNITTING!



This Month's MUST VISIT

Keen knitters take inspiration from all around them and we love a good bit of crafty indulgence. Chilterns Craft and Design Show is coming to Henley-on-Thames and bringing with it an array of exquisite arts and crafts made by some of the best British crafters, so plan a day out and prepare to be inspired. Against the beautiful backdrop of Stonor Park, over 200 craftspeople will showcase their work from 22nd to 25th August, making it a fantastic opportunity to buy handmade wares including ornaments, jewellery, glass, ceramics and accessories for the home and garden. The event will also feature live music, workshops, demonstrations, and delicious food and drink, so it promises to be a wonderful occasion for the whole family to enjoy. To see the full list of exhibitors and buy tickets, visit www.thecraftshows.co.uk.

THIS MONTH We're knitting

Deputy Editor Adrienne created these garter stitch wristwarmers. She said: "These were super easy to knit and I just love the cuff detail. They're made in a gorgeous merino and yak fibre blend, how exotic? The hardest part was going through my button tin trying to decide which fastener to go for!"



DATES FOR *August*

1st Let's Knit September issue on sale!

www.letsknit.co.uk

9th-10th The Great British Craft Festival, Warwickshire

www.greatbritishcraft.co.uk

16th PopUp Wool Show, Cheshire

www.popupwoolshow.co.uk

22nd-25th Craft In Focus Contemporary Craft & Design Fair, Chelmsford

www.craftinfocus.com

22nd-25th Chilterns Craft and Design Show, Henley-on-Thames

www.thecraftshows.co.uk

WE ASKED *our readers*

We all have different ways of dealing with our stash. How do you like to use yours up?

CAROL EVANS

I use several strands together to a thickness of chunky, then knit or crochet basketweave squares to form rugs.

HILARY CLARKE

I knit striped cardigans for babies or squares that can be made into a charity blanket (or anything that a charity needs).

BECCIE PALMER

I use my super duper pompom maker!

Pick from the LK BLOG

There's a huge variety of ways to knit and crochet flowers, and Editorial Assistants Katie and Amy have put together a collection of ideas for what to do with them. Take a look at our blog post 10 ways with knitted flowers for some floral inspiration! www.letsknit.co.uk



MARTINE *makes*

GUERNSEY GIRL MARTINE IS A BLOGGER, TEACHER, KNITWEAR DESIGNER AND REMARKABLY AVERAGE UKULELE PLAYER. FIND HER POPULAR CREATIVE LIFESTYLE BLOG AND PODCAST, IMAKE AT WWW.IMAKEGSY.COM.

WIP confession

I have a confession to make: I have nine projects on the go at the moment. This sounds like a massive, unrealistic number so, seeking reassurance, I decided to canvas opinion on social media. It turns out nine is perfectly acceptable, perhaps even a little on the low side. Thank goodness, as there are so many patterns that I am desperate to cast on...

On the needles

Modular knitting patterns seem to be catching my eye at the moment, particularly anything with a patchwork-style construction. Tin Can Knits' Vivid blanket has been on my needles for a short while now. It's a lace patchwork that can be knitted in any weight yarn. Each square is knitted in the round, from the centre out. I am planning to use it as a throw, so have opted for one of my favourite, durable,



workhorse yarns: Jamieson & Smith jumper weight Shetland wool. As well as a blanket or three, I have several pairs of socks on the needles as part of the Socks With Sarah Knitalong ("KAL"). Sarah

blogs at knittingsarah.com and her KAL aims to encourage knitters to integrate a little sock knitting into their daily routine. It runs all year and is very informal so knitters can join any time. KALs are a fantastic way to meet other knitters all over the world and develop new skills.

Magic cake

As a by-product of my sock knitting, I am cultivating a major stash of leftover sock yarn. There are many ways to use up leftovers, including my own Knitted Patchwork Recipe. However, one of the most innovative ideas I have discovered is the "magic cake", a unique ball of yarn you can create by joining together lots of yarn remnants of similar weight. There are various techniques for joining yarn ends together but my favourite is the Russian join. This unique ball of yarn would make a wonderful shawl; in fact I am rather drawn to Paula Fuessele Designs' Magic Cake Ruffle Shawl, which was designed specifically for this purpose. At last, a calorie free cake!



TTFN
Martine XO

WHAT'S HOT ON THE LK WEBSITE

If you're heading off on holiday soon, swing by the LK website before you go and download the free pattern for these Greek-inspired Fair Isle travel accessories. The matching set includes a luggage tag and passport holder – you'll be glad of this striking pair at baggage reclaim!





SIRDAR

DIVINE - 6 opulent colours, book 466 & 8 easy to knit leaflets

for stockists telephone: 01924 371501 * enquiries@sirdar.co.uk * knitting-helpline@sirdar.co.uk * www.sirdar.co.uk

@knitsirdar  

Morning Dew

This sheer summer sweater by Siân Brown is a simple make with a fun feel

Knitted in Debbie Bliss Angel, this soft and fluffy sweater is beautifully light, like morning dewfall after a cloudless summer night. The colourful ribbon trim adds a great contrast and a bit of shine, giving Morning Dew an easy transition from daytime to evening.

Easy-knit sweater up to size 26!

EXCLUSIVE TO
Let's knit



meet our
DESIGNER

"The stitches are really simple on this top and the contrasting ribbon tie adds a feminine touch."

SIÂN BROWN

Measurements & Sizes

Dress size (approx):

8 (10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26)

To fit chest (cm):

81 (86, 92, 97, 102, 107, 112, 117, 122, 127)

Actual chest (cm):

90 (95, 101, 106, 112, 117, 122, 128, 133, 139)

Length to shoulder (cm):

60 (60, 62, 62, 64, 64, 65, 65, 66, 66)

Sleeve length (cm):

45

Knit Kit

Yarn: Debbie Bliss Angel, shade 37 Sky, 4 (5, 5, 5, 5, 6, 6, 6, 7, 7) 25g balls

Needles: 3.25mm circular, 4mm straight, 4mm circular

Ribbon: narrow, pink, 5m

Tension Square

22 sts x 28 rows

10cm x 10cm

stocking stitch

4mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Debbie Bliss Angel is a luxury yarn made up of 76% mohair and 24% silk. It comes in a range of wonderfully rich colours and should be handwashed only.

Need an Alternative?

Wendy Air is a laceweight yarn that blends 70% kid mohair and 30% nylon. It can be machine washed.

Let's Shop

Debbie Bliss Angel costs **£8.95 per 25g (200m) ball** from 01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com

For 10% off this yarn use the code LK82 at the checkout

10% OFF!

Wendy Air costs **£4.90 per 25g (200m) ball** from 0131 558 1747, www.mcadirect.com

Start knitting here

BACK

Using 4mm circular needle, cast on 134 (142, 150, 158, 166, 174, 182, 190, 198, 206) sts loosely

□ Row 1: k2, [p2, k2] to end

□ Row 2: p2, [k2, p2] to end

These two rows form rib

□ Rep last two rows 13 more times and Row 1 again

□ Dec row: p2, [k2tog, p2] to end. 101 (107, 113, 119, 125, 131, 137, 143, 149, 155) sts

□ Beg with a k row, work four rows in st st

□ Dec row (RS): k6, skpo, k to last eight sts, k2tog, k6

□ Work three rows in st st

□ Rep last four rows four more times and dec row again. 89 (95, 101, 107, 113, 119, 125, 131, 137, 143) sts

□ Work five rows in st st

□ Inc row: k7, m1, k to last seven sts, m1, k7

□ Rep last six rows five more times. 101 (107, 113, 119, 125, 131, 137, 143, 149, 155) sts

□ Cont without shaping until Back meas 35 (35, 36, 36, 37, 37, 37, 37, 37) cm from cast-on edge, ending after a p row

SHAPE RAGLAN ARMHOLES

□ Cast off 4 (5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13) sts at beg of next two rows. 93 (97, 101, 105, 109, 113, 117, 121, 125, 129) sts

THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH, EIGHTH, NINTH AND TENTH SIZES ONLY

□ Next row: k2, skpo, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2

□ Next row: p2, p2tog, p to last four sts, p2tog tbl, p2

□ Rep last two rows - (-, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1) more times. 93 (97, 97, 101, 105, 109, 109, 113, 117, 121) sts

ALL SIZES

□ Next row: k2, skpo, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2

□ Next row: p to end

□ Rep last two rows until 39 (43, 43, 47, 47, 51, 51, 55, 55, 59) sts rem. Leave sts on a spare needle

FRONT

□ Work as for Back until 47 (51, 51, 55, 55, 59, 59, 63, 63, 67) sts rem, ending after a WS row

SHAPE FRONT NECK

□ Next row: k2, skpo, k8, turn and work on these 11 sts for first side of

neck shaping

□ Next row: cast off two sts, p to end. Nine sts

□ Next row: k2, skpo, k to end

□ Next row: p2tog, p to end

□ Rep last two rows twice more.

Three sts. Leave these sts on a spare needle

□ With RS facing, slip centre 23 (27, 27, 31, 31, 35, 35, 39, 39, 43) sts on to a holder, rejoin yarn to rem sts, cast off two sts, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2. Nine sts

□ Next row: p to end

□ Next row: skpo, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2

□ Rep last two rows once more.

Five sts

□ Next row: p to end

□ Next row: sl 1, k2tog, psso, k2.

Three sts

□ Next row: p to end

Leave these sts on a spare needle

SLEEVES

Using 4mm needles, cast on 47 (52, 57, 62, 67, 72, 77, 82, 87, 92) sts loosely

□ Row 1: k2, [p3, k2] to end

□ Row 2: p2, [k3, p2] to end

These two rows form rib

□ Rep last two rows 13 more times and Row 1 again

□ Dec and eyelet row: p2, [k2tog, k1, yrn, p2tog] to end. 38 (42, 46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 70, 74) sts

□ Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st

□ Inc row: k3, m1, k to last three sts, m1, k3

□ Work five rows in st st

□ Rep last six rows 14 more times and Inc row again. 70 (74, 78, 82, 86, 90, 94, 98, 102, 106) sts

□ Cont in patt until Sleeve meas 45cm from cast-on edge, ending after a p row

SHAPE RAGLAN TOP

Cast off 4 (5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13) sts at beg of next two rows. 62 (64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80) sts

□ Next row: k2, skpo, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2

□ Work three rows in st st



knitwise

Lean on me

This is a good project for knitters who haven't made a garment before, as the shaping is quite simple. When working decrease rows, make sure you stick to the pattern closely. Using skpo or k2tog affects the direction that your stitches will lean, so to ensure your raglan shaping looks neat, follow the instructions carefully.

Make one (m1)

1 Insert the left needle into the horizontal bar of yarn lying between the stitch just knitted and the next stitch to be knitted. Hook and lift it with the needle tip in a backwards direction (away from you).

2 Push the right needle into the back part of the loop that now lies over the left needle and knit this stitch. You will now have an additional stitch on the right needle.



LUXURIOUS RAGLAN SWEATER



"Our Morning Dew sweater is as light as a feather but gloriously soft. It's a really unique luxury item."

LK Editorial Assistant **Katie Wilding**

- Rep last four rows 6 (5, 5, 4, 5, 4, 4, 3, 4, 3) more times. 48 (52, 54, 58, 58, 62, 64, 68, 68, 72) sts
- Next row: k2, skpo, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2
- Next row: p to end
- Rep last two rows until 22 sts rem. Leave these sts on a spare needle

NECKBAND

- Using 3.25mm circular needle and with RS facing, k21 from left Sleeve, k last st tog with first st on Front, k2, pick up and k six sts down left side of Front neck, k across 23 (27, 27, 31, 31, 35, 35, 39, 39, 43) sts on Front neck holder, pick up and k seven sts up right side of Front neck, k2, k last st on Front tog with first st on right Sleeve, k20, k last st tog with first st on Back, k38 (42, 42, 46, 46, 50, 50, 54, 54, 58). 122 (130, 130, 138, 138, 146, 146, 154, 154, 162) sts
- Next row: k
- Eyelet row: k2, [yfwd, k2tog, k2] to end
- K four rows
- Cast off

To make up

Join raglans and neckband seam. Join side and sleeve seams. Thread ribbon through eyelets on neck to tie at centre front. Thread ribbon through sleeve eyelets to tie at centre of sleeve **LK**

**coming
next issue**

**EASY RIBBED CARDI BY
SIÂN BROWN**

September issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 1st August



Jeans, £19.99, TK Maxx

Measurements & Sizes

Height: 37cm

Width: 30cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: (A) Rico Creative Cotton Aran, shade 13 Fuchsia, four 50g balls, (B) Rico Essentials Cotton DK shade 40 Dark Teal, one 50g ball, oddments of waste yarn

Needles: 3.25mm, 4mm

Crochet hook: 5mm

Tapestry needle

Stitch holders: four

Fabric: contrasting design, 35cm x 40cm, two pieces

Needle and thread

Wooden hanger: 30cm

Tension Square

20 sts x 37 rows
10cm x 10cm
slip stitch pattern
4mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Rico Essentials Cotton DK is a 100% mercerised cotton yarn while Rico Creative Cotton Aran has a soft matte finish. They both come in vibrant colourways and can be machine washed.

Need an Alternative?



West Yorkshire Spinners Aire Valley Aran and West Yorkshire Spinners Aire Valley DK use 75% British wool and 25% nylon. Machine washable at 40°C.

Let's Shop

Rico Creative Cotton Aran costs £1.79 per 50g (85m) ball and Rico Creative Cotton DK costs £2.39 per 50g (130m) ball from 01925 764231, www.blacksheepwools.com



West Yorkshire Spinners Aire Valley Aran costs £4.75 per 100g (200m) ball and West Yorkshire Spinners Aire Valley DK costs £4.75 per 100g (230m) ball. Contact 01535 664500, www.wyspinners.com for stockists

Helping Hand

Pin up your washing with the help of this cute peg bag by Georganne Cauchi

There are lots of things that make being outdoors in summer an idyllic time.

Ice cream, paddling pools, and oodles of sun cream all help to conjure fond memories of childhood. And for many of us there's also the joy of breezy, freshly dried sheets! Why not add a whimsical touch to an otherwise mundane job with this adorable peg bag? Use a contrasting bow and simple slip stitch pattern to finish it off with an extra crafty twist.

Start knitting here

BACK

Using 5mm crochet hook and contrasting yarn, make 70 ch for provisional cast on (see Knitwise)

- ☐ Using 4mm needles and yarn A, pick up and k 64 sts
- ☐ Row 1 and all odd-numbered rows: p
- ☐ Row 2 (RS): k
- ☐ Row 4: k1, * p2, wyif sl 3, rep from * to last three sts, p2, k1
- ☐ Row 6: as Row 4
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-6 21 times
- ☐ Next row: p
- ☐ Next row: k30, cast off four sts, k to end

Place sts on holder

FRONT

- ☐ Rows 1-84: work as for Back
- ☐ Row 85: p
- ☐ Row 86: k13, cast off 38 sts, k to end

With RS facing, place 13 sts on RH side on holder

LEFT SIDE

- ☐ Row 87 and all odd-numbered rows: p
- ☐ Row 88: (p2, wyif sl 3) twice, p2, k1
- ☐ Row 90: as Row 88
- ☐ Row 92: k
- ☐ Row 94: as Row 88
- ☐ Row 96: as Row 88

Place sts on holder

RIGHT SIDE

With WS facing, rejoin yarn to sts

- ☐ Row 87 and all odd-numbered rows: p
- ☐ Row 88: k1, (p2, wyif sl 3) twice, p2
- ☐ Row 90: as Row 88
- ☐ Row 92: k
- ☐ Row 94: as Row 88
- ☐ Row 96: as Row 88

Place sts on holder

With RS facing, place 13 sts of LH side on needle, turn

Rejoin yarn to sts at outside edge

- ☐ Row 97: p13, cast on 38 sts, p13. 64 sts
- ☐ Rows 98-102: rep Rows 2-6 of patt
- ☐ Rows 103-126: rep Rows 1-6 of patt four times
- ☐ Row 127: p



knitwise

Provisional Cast On

A provisional cast on allows you to leave your cast-on stitches open so that you can return to them later and work in the opposite direction. Using a contrasting coloured yarn, make 70 chain stitches as directed in the pattern. For a video on this simple crochet stitch, head to www.letsknit.co.uk. Once you have your chain, pick up the stitches by working into the bump on the back of each stitch. When you return to the stitches later, insert the needle into the right side of each stitch, and then gently pull the chain to undo it and free your stitches completely.

EXCLUSIVE TO
Let's
Knit

"There are so many colours in the Rico Essentials Cotton range, try picking the two that really show off your personality!"

LK Editorial Assistant **Amy Adams**

□ Row 128: k30, cast off four sts, k to end

Place sts on holder

BOW

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn B, cast on 22 sts

□ Row 1: * k2, p2, rep from * to last two sts, k2

□ Row 2: * p2, k2, rep from * to last two sts, p2

□ Rep Rows 1-2 until piece meas approx 14cm

□ Cast off in patt

Wrap yarn A around middle of piece and secure ends

To make up

Pick up stitches from provisional cast on and use kitchener stitch to seam cast-on edges (see page 94). Sew sides using mattress stitch. Seam the top part of the peg bag using Kitchener stitch. Sew peg bag lining pieces with right sides together. Cut a hole the same size as opening and hem raw edges. Position lining in peg bag and place hanger through front opening. Sew lining with knitted peg bag around the opening. Attach Bow **LK**

**coming
next issue**

SUSIE JOHNS'
CROCHETED TEA SET

September issue of *Let's Knit*
on sale Friday 1st August



meet our
DESIGNER

"This peg bag features a simple slip stitch. It is easy and quick to knit, making it an ideal summer project."

GEORGANNE CAUCHI

Measurements & Sizes

Width: 24cm

Height when standing
(excluding crown): 16cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: (A) Cygnet DK shade 6869 Bright Lime, one 100g ball, (B) Twilleys Goldfingering shade 002 Gold, one 25g ball

Needles: 3.25mm, 4mm

Safety toy stuffing

Tapestry needle

Safety eyes: black bead, two

Small piece of white felt

Stitch holder

Tension Square

22 sts x 28 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
4mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Cygnet DK is a machine washable acrylic yarn in a huge variety of shades, including four fluorescent colours, such as this!

Twilleys Goldfingering is a metallic yarn made from 80% viscose and 20% polyester. The chainette structure keeps it light and airy.

Need an Alternative?

Red Heart Lisa is an acrylic DK yarn which comes in a wide range of shades – try shade 00201 Neon Green.

Anchor Artiste Metallic comes in several different shades, including shade 300, a beautiful warm gold.

Let's Shop

Cygnet DK costs £1.85 per 100g (298m) ball from 0845 519 7897, www.knittybitz.com

Twilleys Goldfingering costs £2.99 per 25g (100m) ball from www.purplelindacrafts.com

Red Heart Lisa costs £1.09 per 50g (133m) ball and Anchor Artiste Metallic costs £4.65 per 25g (100m) ball from 0800 488 0708, www.deramores.com

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Albert

Who needs a handsome prince when you can have Val Pierce's charming frog?

King of the frog world, Albert is an extraordinary amphibian with long legs and a big heart!

He is knitted in a fluorescent shade of Cygnet DK so he really stands out. With a mouth pouch for storing trinkets, and big, watchful eyes, he will make an incredibly tactile toy for youngsters! Let their imaginations run wild as they retell classic fairytales in their own bedroom.

Start knitting here

BODY

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on six sts

- ☐ Row 1: p
 - ☐ Row 2: (kfb) to end. 12 sts
 - ☐ Rows 3-5: beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
 - ☐ Row 6: * k1, kfb, rep from * to end. 18 sts
 - ☐ Rows 7-9: beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
 - ☐ Row 10: * k2, kfb, rep from * to end. 24 sts
 - ☐ Rows 11-13: beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
 - ☐ Row 14: * k3, kfb, rep from * to end. 30 sts
 - ☐ Rows 15-19: beg with a p row, work five rows in st st
 - ☐ Row 20: * k4, kfb, rep from * to end. 36 sts
 - ☐ Rows 21-27: beg with a p row, work seven rows in st st
 - ☐ Row 28: * k4, k2tog, rep from * to end. 30 sts
 - ☐ Rows 29-35: beg with a p row, work seven rows in st st
 - ☐ Row 36: * k3, k2tog, rep from * to end. 24 sts
 - ☐ Row 37-39: beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
 - ☐ Row 40: * k2, k2tog, rep from * to end. 18 sts
 - ☐ Row 41-43: beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
 - ☐ Row 44: * k1, k2tog, rep from * to end. 12 sts
 - ☐ Rows 45-47: beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
 - ☐ Row 48: (k2tog) to end. Six sts
- Cut yarn and pull through sts on needle, pull tight and fasten off
- This is top of Body

ARMS (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 12 sts

- ☐ Row 1: p
- ☐ Row 2: (kfb) to end. 24 sts
- ☐ Rows 3-7: beg with a p row, work five rows in st st
- ☐ Row 8: * k1, k2tog, rep from * to end. 16 sts
- ☐ Rows 9-29: beg with a p row, work 21 rows in st st
- ☐ Row 30: * k1, kfb, rep from * to end. 24 sts
- ☐ Beg with a p row, work 13 rows in st st
- ☐ Cast off

BACK LEGS (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on ten sts

- ☐ Row 1: p
- ☐ Row 2: (kfb) to end. 20 sts
- ☐ Row 3: p
- ☐ Row 4: * k2, kfb, rep from * to last two sts, k2. 26 sts
- ☐ Rows 5-17: beg with a p row, work 13 rows in st st
- ☐ Row 18: * k1, k2tog, rep from * to last two sts, k2. 18 sts
- ☐ Rows 19-89: beg with a p row, work 71 rows in st st

- ☐ Row 90: (kfb) to end. 36 sts
- ☐ Rows 91-102: beg with a p row, work 12 rows in st st
- ☐ Cast off

EYE BASE (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 20 sts

- ☐ Rows 1-4: beg with a k row, work four rows in st st
- ☐ Row 5: * k3, k2tog, rep from * to end. 16 sts
- ☐ Row 6: p
- ☐ Row 7: * k2, k2tog, rep from * to end. 12 sts
- ☐ Row 8: p
- ☐ Row 9: * k1, k2tog, rep from * to end. Eight sts
- ☐ Cut yarn and pull through sts on needle, pull tight and fasten off

BIB AND MOUTH

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on ten sts

- ☐ Rows 1-2: k
- ☐ Cont to work in garter st inc one st at each end of every alt row until there are 18 sts

Increase (kfb)

1 Insert the right needle into the next stitch and knit, leaving the original stitch on the left needle.

2 Insert the right needle into the back of the original stitch on the left needle and knit as normal. Slide the knitted stitch off the left needle and you will now have an extra stitch on the right needle.



"This toy does have small parts, so try embroidering the eyes if giving to a young baby."

LK Editorial Assistant **Amy Adams**



meet our
DESIGNER

"Sewing the legs to the body is quite tricky, so take your time and pin them in place to help you. If they don't look right first time round, then unpick and try again. I had to do this myself a few times!"

VAL PIERCE

- ☐ Beg with a k row, work 18 rows in st st
- ☐ Cont in st st dec one st at each end of every alt row until 12 sts rem
- ☐ Cast off

CROWN

POINTS (make five)

NOTE: hold yarn double for points of crown

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn B held double, cast on two sts

- ☐ Row 1 and all odd-numbered rows: k

- ☐ Row 2: kfb, k1. Three sts
- ☐ Row 4: kfb, k1, kfb. Five sts
- ☐ Row 6: kfb, k3, kfb. Seven sts
- ☐ Row 8: kfb, k5, kfb. Nine sts
- ☐ Rows 9-14: k

Place sts on to holder

BASE OF CROWN

NOTE: use single strand of yarn for base

- ☐ Using 3.25mm needles and yarn B, k across sts for each point
- ☐ Next row: p
- ☐ Work seven rows in garter st
- ☐ Cast off

To make up

Weave in ends of Crown carefully. Join short ends of piece. Using a tapestry needle and yarn B, catch points together at base to make them stand up. To make Frog, sew Body seam down centre back. Stuff and shape before closing, aiming for an egg shape and using picture as a guide. Sew seam on Back legs, adding stuffing as you go, with extra stuffing in top part and feet. Sew seams on Arms and stuff in same way. Fold Back legs into three

different lengths, using picture as a guide and remembering that the top is the widest part. Pin Back legs in place and sew together. Make Arms, sewing seam and stuffing, as with Back legs. Sew across base where increase is made on each foot. Sew Arms on to Body. Sew Bib and mouth to front of Body, folding over garter stitch part to form mouth. Form Eye bases into cup shapes and stuff, then cut circles in white felt. Make a small hole in centre of each circle, push safety eyes through, then insert through centre of Eye base pieces and fix in position. Sew eyes to frog's face. Attach Crown to head, folding base under to make Crown stand up **LK**

knitwise

Get stuffed

Stuffing your knitted toys correctly can make or break the finished look. You don't want to over-stuff and risk lumps, but too little and you won't get that all-important squish factor! The best way to ensure an even finish is to work slowly, pulling off small amounts of stuffing at a time and pushing it right into the edges of your toy, so that no corner is left empty. Keep checking your work against the photographs provided, and don't be afraid of adding or taking away until it looks just right.



**coming
next issue**

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Prints CHARMING

Get on trend with eye-catching patterns



IN THE BAG

This colourful knitting bag from Korbond is perfect for taking your project out and about. RRP £18.99, **01476 573227**, www.sew.korbond.co.uk



FANCY FOOTWORK

These tribal print ballet pumps are just right for summer. £14.99, **01858 468546**, www.deichmann.com



KEEPING COOL

Variegated yarns look great as pattern accents, as shown in this gorgeous summer top from the new Noro Kibou collection. For stockists: **01535 664222**, www.designeryarns.uk.com

The Alchemy of Color Knitting by Gina Wilde will show you how to create striking patterns and designs. £17.99, Potter Craft, www.amazon.co.uk



BIG 'N' BOLD

We love these chunky 8mm needles topped with a paint swirl bead. Also in 9mm and 10mm, from £2.99, www.funkyneedles.co.uk



LOUNGING AROUND

This vibrant patchwork cushion is bursting with colourful prints and patterns. £15, **0845 872 2400**, www.aspace.co.uk



HELLO KITTY

Cat lovers will adore this eye-popping doorstop! £15, **0191 645 4004**, www.hunkydoryhome.co.uk

3 OF THE BEST Self-patterning yarns

Some yarns are specially dyed to create interesting colour patterns. King Cole Bamboo Cotton Prints produces an all-over kaleidoscope of colour, while Lang Mille Colori Socks & Lace Luxe knits up into bold stripes with a glitzy finish. Sirdar Baby Crofter produces intricate effects that resemble Fair Isle patterns. Lang Mille Colori Socks & Lace Luxe costs £10.95 per 100g (400m) ball from **01529 240510**, www.art yarn.co.uk. King Cole Bamboo Cotton Prints costs £4.59 per 100g (230m) ball, Sirdar Baby Crofter costs £3.19 per 50g (165m) from www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk



EXCLUSIVE TO

Let's
knit

Felt Fantastic

*Try an exciting way to transform your knits
with Jane Burns' stylish handbag*

This fashionable handbag is shrunk in the washing machine after knitting, in order to produce a sturdy fabric.

The grey stripes are teamed with funky coloured bobbles which add a modern twist to the design. Putting your knits in the washing machine may be a little daunting, but don't worry – just take a deep breath and take the plunge!



meet our
DESIGNER

"Inspired by the ombre-effect fabrics that I love, I wanted to design a bag in a monochrome palette, but it wouldn't have been me without a wild side or two!"

JANE BURNS

Measurements & Sizes

Front panel (before felting):
37cm x 44cm

Front panel (after felting):
30cm x 28cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Rico Creative Filz, (A) shade 91 Grey, four 50g balls, (B) shade 92 Anthracite, three 50g balls, (C) shade 90 Black, three 50g balls, (D) shade 17 Purple, one 50g ball, (E) shade 36 Petrol, one 50g ball, (F) shade 19 Fuchsia, one 50g ball

Needles: 8mm circular

Tapestry needle

Handles: leather piped 18"

Tension Square

12 sts x 16 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
8mm needles

Special abbreviations

MB: make bobble - using colour specified, k st but do not slip off LH needle, (yfwd, k, yfwd, k) all into original st, turn, p5, turn, k5, turn, p5. With WS facing sl each st in turn over first st until one remains, turn, k st using yarn A

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Rico Creative Filz is a 100% wool superchunky yarn which is ideal for felting and comes in a range of delightful solid shades.

Need an Alternative?

Drops Eskimo is a soft and thick yarn made from pure wool, available in a wide variety of solid and variegated shades.

Let's Shop

Rico Creative Filz costs £3.09 per 50g (50m) ball from 0800 488 0708, www.deramores.com

For 10% off all orders at Deramores, turn to the back cover

10% OFF!

Drops Eskimo costs £1.70 per 50g (50m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

Leather piped 18" bag handles cost £13.50 from 01273 748944, www.u-handbag.com

Start knitting here

BODY

Using yarn A and long-tail method, cast on 44 sts

- ☐ Row 1: * k1, p1, rep from * to end
- ☐ Row 2: * p1, k1, rep from * to end
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-2

Beg with a k row, work in st st in stripe sequence as follows:

- ☐ Using yarn A, work 14 rows
- ☐ Using yarn B, work two rows
- ☐ Using yarn A, work four rows
- ☐ Using yarn B, work 20 rows
- ☐ Using yarn C, work two rows
- ☐ Using yarn B, work two rows
- ☐ Using yarn C, work four rows
- ☐ Using yarn B, work four rows
- ☐ Using yarn C, work 15 rows, ending after a RS row
- ☐ Next row (fold): using yarn C, k one row

BASE

- ☐ Using yarn C and beg with a k row, work 21 rows in st st
- ☐ Next row (fold): using yarn C, k one row

BACK

Beg with a k row, work in st st in stripe sequence as follows:

- ☐ Using yarn C, work 16 rows
- ☐ Using yarn B, work four rows
- ☐ Using yarn C, work four rows
- ☐ Using yarn B, work two rows
- ☐ Using yarn C, work two rows
- ☐ Using yarn B, work 20 rows
- ☐ Using yarn A, work four rows
- ☐ Using yarn B, work two rows
- ☐ Using yarn A, work 14 rows

BORDER

Change to yarn A only

- ☐ Row 1: * k1, p1, rep from * to end
- ☐ Row 2: * p1, k1, rep from * to end
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-2
- ☐ Cast off

GUSSETS (make two)

NOTE: letter foll mb instruction indicates yarn shade

Using yarn A and long-tail method, cast on 15 sts

- ☐ Rows 1-4: * k1, p1, rep from * to last st, k1
- ☐ Rows 5-6: beg with a k row, work in st st
- ☐ Row 7: ** k3, mb D, k3, mb E, k3, mb F, k3
- ☐ Rows 8-10: beg with a p row, work in st st
- ☐ Row 11: k5, mb B, k3, mb B, k5
- ☐ Rows 12-14: beg with a p row, work in st st **
- ☐ Rep from ** to ** eight times in total
- ☐ Cast off

To make up

Weave in ends, sew gussets in place using mattress stitch, making sure moss stitch bands are at top of each gusset. Place in washing machine, use a normal whites cycle at 70°C. Remove from the machine as soon as wash is finished. Lay flat and pin to measurements. Sew on handles **LK**

knitwise

Felting

Felting is the process in which a yarn's pure wool fibres rub against each other and fuse together during a washing machine cycle, leaving you with a smaller, denser fabric than the one you started with. For some of us, this means disaster if a favourite sweater is accidentally ruined! However, the process is perfect for creating robust bags or purses. Firstly, remember that only animal fibres will felt, and of course they should not be superwash! Try putting the item into a washing bag before it goes in the machine to protect it from damage. You will need to add a pair of jeans or drier balls to agitate the fabric during the cycle. If you are unsure how powerful your washing machine will be, felt a test swatch, measuring the before and after squares to get an accurate size ratio.

coming
next issue

STYLISH KNITTED
HOMEWARES FROM
JANE BURNS

September issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 1st August



Denim waistcoat, £14.99, New Look;
dress, £42, Topshop



"When knitting stripes, remember to twist together your yarns at the end of the rows, carrying them up the side of your work as you go."

LK Editorial Assistant **Amy Adams**



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
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Pattern (8913) by  Stylecraft in Lullaby DK

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F. Fisher

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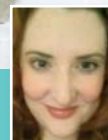
Happy Camper

This colourful pillow from Nicola Valiji epitomises the British summer

Pack up your bags and hit the road with this fabulous caravan-motif cushion!

The striped background is really easy to knit, and the bunting and caravan designs are knitted separately and sewn on afterwards.

The caravan uses the intarsia method to work the door and window, and we've got both charted and written instructions. These could also be Swiss darned if you prefer. Buy the yarn for this cushion from your local yarn shop!



meet our
DESIGNER

"This retro knitting design was inspired by my childhood holidays in the 1970s, spent with my parents and sister in our caravan"

NICOLA VALIJI

Measurements & Sizes

40cm x 40cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Sirdar Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe DK, (A) shade 374 Cool Pink, (B) shade 318 Duck Egg, (C) shade 373 Lime Green, two 50g balls of each, (D) shade 239 Cream, one 50g ball, oddment of dark grey DK

Needles: 3.5mm

Tapestry needle

Sewing needle and thread

Cushion pad: 40cm x 40cm

Buttons: 5cm brown, 1.5cm blue, 2cm lilac, pink, green, cream, blue

Toy stuffing, small amount

Tension Square

22 sts x 28 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
3.5mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Sirdar Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe DK is a nylon and acrylic blend, which is practical and long-lasting. It comes in a great range of 28 shades.

Let's Shop

Sirdar Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe DK has an RRP of £2.67 per 50g (135m) ball. Call 01924 231682 or visit www.sirdar.co.uk/store-locator for stockists

Start knitting here

CUSHION COVER

Using 3.5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 76 sts

□ Row 1: (k2, p2) to end

This row sets 2x2 rib

□ Rep last row nine more times

Beg with a k row, work in st st in four-row stripe sequence as folls:

□ Four rows in yarn B

□ Four rows in yarn C

□ Four rows in yarn A

□ Cont in st st until 62 complete stripes have been worked, ending after a yarn C stripe

Change to yarn A

□ K one row

□ Work five rows in 2x2 rib

□ Next row (buttonhole): rib 8, (yon, k2tog, rib 12, yrn, p2tog, rib 12) twice, yon, k2tog, rib 10

□ Work four more rows in 2x2 rib

□ Cast off in rib

CARAVAN

Using 3.5mm needles and yarn D, cast on 40 sts

Using intarsia method, work door and window using written or charted instructions as folls:

CHART INSTRUCTIONS

□ Work Rows 1-31 of Caravan chart using intarsia method

WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS

NOTE: letter foll each instruction denotes which yarn to use, use intarsia colourwork method

□ Using yarn D, k one row

□ Next row: p20 D, p10 A, p10 D

□ Next row: k10 D, k10 A, k20 D

□ Rep last two rows seven times more

□ Next row: p5 D, p10 B, p5 D, p10 A, p10 D

□ Next row: k10 D, k10 A, k5 D, k10 B, k5 D

□ Rep last two rows four times more

Cut yarn A

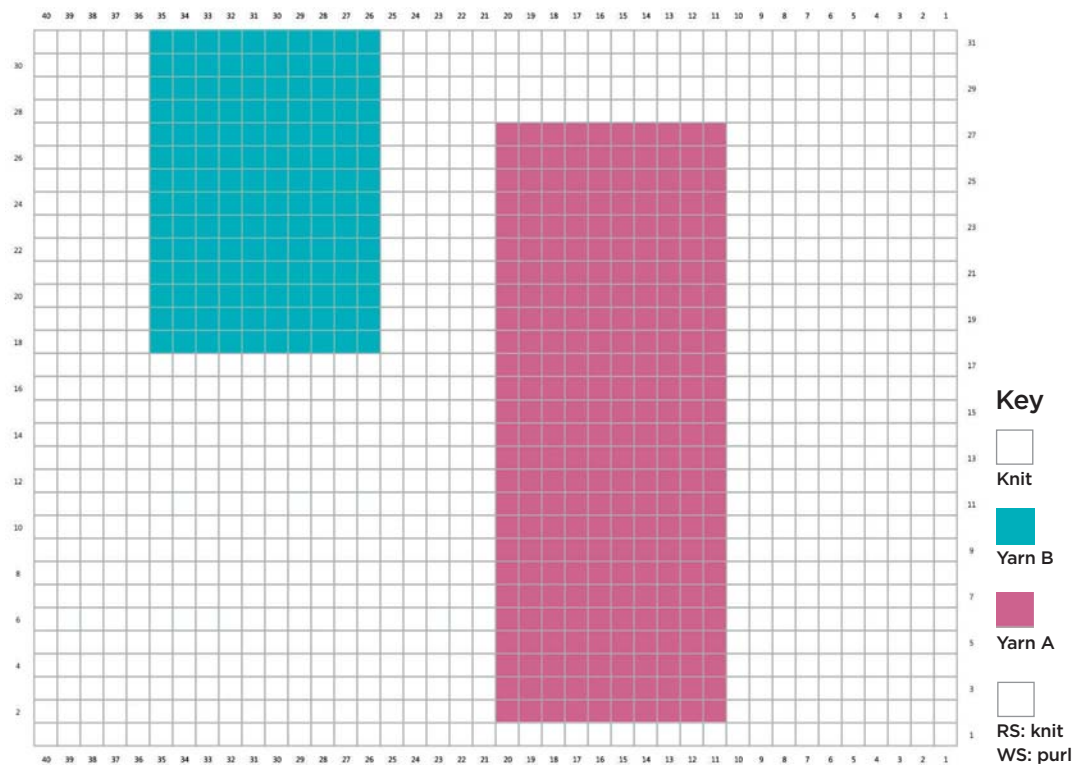


knitwise

Seeing stripes

When knitting stripes, you don't have to cut and rejoin the yarn after every section. To save time at the end - and reduce the amount of yarn used - you can carry the yarn not being used up the side of the work. Twist the strands together every few rows to prevent large loops from forming.

Chart for caravan





- ☐ Next row: p5 D, p10 B, p25 D
- ☐ Next row: k25 D, k10 B, k5 D
- ☐ Rep last two rows once more

ROOF

Cut yarn B and cont in yarn D only

- ☐ Next row: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog
- ☐ Next row: k
- ☐ Rep last two rows until 28 sts rem, ending after a k row
- ☐ Cast off

CURTAINS (make two)

Using 3.5mm needles and yarn C, cast on six sts

- ☐ K every row until work meas 6cm
- ☐ Cast off

BUNTING FLAGS

(make two in yarn A, two in yarn C, two in yarn B and three in yarn D)

Using 3.5mm needles, cast on two sts

- ☐ Row 1 and all WS rows: p
- ☐ Row 2: (kfb) in each st. Four sts
- ☐ Row 4: k1, kfb to last st, k1.

Six sts

- ☐ Row 6: k1, kfb, k2, kfb, k1.

Eight sts

- ☐ Beg with p row, work three rows in st st

Cut yarn, leaving flag on needle

- ☐ When all flags are on needle, using yarn A and with RS facing, k along top of all nine flags. 72 sts
- ☐ K one row
- ☐ Cast off

To make up

Weave in ends of all pieces.

Fold up Cushion cover so buttonbands overlap, keeping buttonhole band on top, then sew up sides. Sew on 2cm buttons to correspond with five buttonholes. Block Curtains, then attach to top edge of window using photo as a guide. Tie two short lengths of yarn A around middle of Curtains and fasten in a bow.

Attach large button to middle of bottom edge of Caravan and add 1.5cm button to Caravan door.

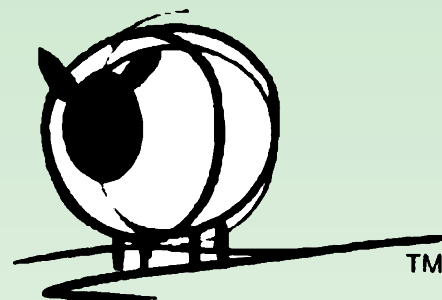
Using oddment of grey DK, embroider straight stitches to outline door, as shown. Pin and sew Caravan in place on front of cushion, leaving a small gap in seam. Add stuffing to pad out Caravan then close gap. Sew bunting above Caravan. Make an 8.5cm pom-pom in all four yarns and attach one to each corner **LK**



Buy from your local yarn shop! Go to www.sirdar.co.uk/storelocator for stockists

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are proud to be hosting a



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with special assistants Russell and Emma from the Sirdar management team

On

Saturday 26th July

9am – 4.30pm

At

Thistle

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We will have an extensive display of garments on show to inspire you.

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www.knotjustwool.co.uk

EXCLUSIVE TO

Let's
knit

Long Island

Layer your outfits with this pretty ruched gilet by Pat Menchini

With a simple lace pattern and an ingenious ruched body, this elegant garment is an ideal finish to late summer looks.

The flattering length skims over your curves while the lace-up bodice adds a delightful twist. Wear over a simple sundress or team with a plain top and jeans to really show off the details in the design.



meet our
DESIGNER

"The ruched effect pattern is achieved by not only using two different sizes of needles but also by increasing and decreasing stitches to give a gathered effect."

PAT MENCHINI

Measurements & sizes

Size (approx):

6-8 (10-12, 14-16, 18-20, 22-24, 26-28)

To fit chest (cm):

76-81 (86-91, 97-102, 107-112, 117-122, 127-132)

Actual chest, approx (cm):

84 (92, 104, 112, 122, 132)

Length from shoulder (cm):

73 (74, 76, 78, 79, 81)

Knit Kit

Yarn: King Cole Moods Duet DK, shade 832 Chianti, 4 (4, 5, 6, 6, 7) 100g balls

Needles: 3.25mm, 4mm, 5.5mm

Crochet hook: 3.75mm

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

22 sts x 28 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
4mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

King Cole Moods Duet DK is a beautiful acrylic and wool-blend yarn which is subtly variegated, combining complementary colours to create an enchanting effect.

Need an Alternative?

If you want to knit your piece in a solid colourway, Hayfield Bonus DK is a 100% acrylic yarn available in 60 different shades.

Let's Shop

King Cole Moods Duet DK costs £3.30 per 100g (294m) ball from 01924 565740, www.woolnstuff.co.uk

Hayfield Bonus DK costs £1.99 per 100g (280m) ball from 0845 576 0007, www.loveknitting.com

To get 10% off all orders at Love Knitting, turn to page 25

10% OFF!

Start knitting here

RIGHT FRONT

Using 4mm needles, cast on 46 (51, 57, 62, 67, 73) sts

Work in Ruched patt as folls:

□ Rows 1-6: p

Change to 5.5mm needles

□ Row 7: k3, [kfb, k1] 19 (22, 25, 27, 30, 33) times, kfb, k to end. 66 (74, 83, 90, 98, 107) sts

□ Rows 8-13: beg with p row, work in st st

□ Row 14: p4 (3, 3, 4, 3, 3), [p2tog, p1] 19 (22, 25, 27, 30, 33) times, p2tog, p to end. 46 (51, 57, 62, 67, 73) sts

Change to 4mm needles

Rows 1-14 form Ruched patt

□ ** Cont in patt until work meas approx 38cm from cast-on edge, ending after Row 6 noting that

final six rows should be worked on 3.25mm needles ***

Change to 4mm needles

Work in Lace patt as folls:

□ Row 1 (RS): p3, [k1, yfwd, skpo, k2, k2tog, yfwd] to last 1 (6, 5, 3, 1, 7) sts, k to end

□ Row 2: p

□ Row 3: p3, k2, [yfwd, skpo, k2tog, yfwd, k3] to last 6 (11, 10, 8, 6, 12) sts, yfwd, skpo, k2tog, yfwd, k to end

□ Row 4: p

□ Row 5: p3, k to end

□ Row 6: p

Rows 1-6 form Lace patt

□ Cont in Lace patt until work meas 55cm from cast-on edge ending at side edge

SHAPE ARMHOLE AND FRONT SLOPE

□ Row 1: cast off 9 (10, 11, 12, 13, 14) sts, p to end

□ Row 2: p3, k2tog tbl, patt to last two sts, k2tog

□ Row 3: p2tog, p to end

□ Rep last two rows 1 (1, 2, 3, 3, 4) times more, then Row 2 once more. 29 (33, 35, 36, 40, 42) sts

□ Next row: p

□ Next row: p3, k2tog tbl, patt to last two sts, k2tog

□ *** Rep last two rows until 21 (23, 23, 26, 26, 28) sts rem

□ Cont to dec inside front edge on every foll alt (alt, 4th, 4th, 4th, 4th) row until 17 (20, 20, 23, 23, 26) sts rem, then on every foll 4th (4th, 4th, 4th, 6th, 6th) row until 13 (15, 17, 19, 20, 22) sts rem

□ Cont without shaping until front meas 18 (19, 21, 23, 24, 26) cm from beg of armhole shaping, ending at armhole edge

SHAPE SHOULDER

□ Cast off 4 (5, 6, 6, 7, 7) sts at beg of next row and foll alt row

□ Patt one row

□ Cast off rem sts

LEFT FRONT

□ Work as Right front to ***

Change to 4mm needles and work in Lace patt as folls:

□ Row 1 (RS): k1 (6, 5, 3, 1, 7), [yfwd, skpo, k2, k2tog, yfwd, k1] to last three sts, p3

□ Row 2: p

□ Row 3: k2 (7, 6, 4, 2, 8), [yfwd, skpo, k2tog, k3] to last nine sts, yfwd, skpo, k2tog, k2, p3

□ Row 4: p

□ Row 5: k to last three sts, p3

□ Row 6: p

□ Cont in Lace patt until work meas 55cm ending at side edge

SHAPE ARMHOLE AND FRONT SLOPE

□ Row 1: cast off 9 (10, 11, 12, 13, 14) sts, patt to end

□ Row 2: p

□ Row 3: k2tog, work to last five sts, k2tog, p3

□ Row 4: p to last two sts, p2tog

□ Rep last two rows 1 (1, 2, 3, 3, 4) times more, then Row 3 once more. 29 (33, 35, 36, 40, 42) sts

□ Next row: p

□ Next row: k2tog, patt to last five sts, k2tog, p3

□ Complete to match Right front working from **** to end

BACK

Using 4mm needles, cast on 92 (102, 114, 124, 134, 146) sts

Work in Ruched patt as folls:

□ Rows 1-6: p

Change to 5.5mm needles

□ Row 7: k3, [kfb, k1] 42 (47, 53, 58, 63, 69) times, kfb, k to end. 135 (150, 168, 183, 198, 216) sts

□ Rows 8-13: beg with a p row, work six rows in st st

□ Row 14: p4, [p2tog, p1] 42 (47, 53, 58, 63, 69) times, p2tog, p to end. 92 (102, 114, 124, 134, 146) sts

Change to 4mm needles

Rows 1-14 from Ruched patt

□ Work as Right front from ** to ***

Change to 4mm needles and work in Lace patt as folls:

□ Row 1: k1 (6, 5, 3, 1, 7), [yfwd, skpo, k2, k2tog, yfwd, k1] to last 0 (5, 4, 2, 0, 6) sts, k0 (5, 4, 2, 0, 6)

□ Row 2: p

□ Row 3: k2 (7, 6, 4, 2, 8), [yfwd, skpo, k2tog, yfwd, k3] to last 6 (11,



Twist and shout

It's so easy to make a twisted cord, and the effect is simple and stylish. Take a few strands of yarn, remembering that the thickness will be doubled once the cord is complete. Cut the lengths of yarn two-and-a-half to three times longer than the desired length of your finished cord and tie a knot at both ends. Pin one end down and twist from the other until it is so tight that it begins to kink. Bring the knotted ends together and let the cord twist around itself, then secure by tying together the knotted ends.



Sizes
6-28!

10, 8, 6, 12) sts, yfwd, skpo, k2tog, yfwd, k2 (7, 6, 4, 2, 8)
☐ Rows 4-6: beg with a p row work three rows in st st
 Rows 1-6 form Lace patt
☐ Cont in Lace patt until work meas 55cm ending after a p row

SHAPE ARMHOLES

☐ Cast off 9 (10, 11, 12, 13, 14) sts at beg of next two rows
☐ Dec one st at each end of every row until 64 (72, 78, 82, 90, 96) sts rem, then on every foll alt row until 56 (62, 66, 72, 76, 82) sts rem
☐ Cont to work without shaping until Back meas same as fronts to shoulder shaping ending after a p row

SHAPE SHOULDERS

NOTE: p centre 36 (38, 38, 40, 42, 44) sts on every row

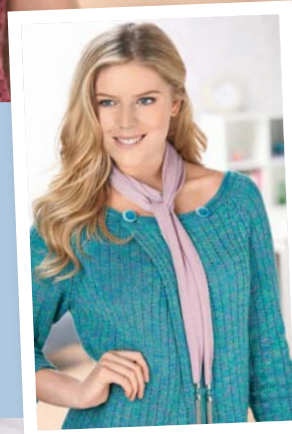
☐ Cast off 4 (5, 6, 6, 7, 7) sts at beg of next four rows, then 5 (5, 5, 7, 6, 8) sts at beg of next two rows
☐ Cast off rem 30 (32, 32, 34, 36, 38) sts

ARMHOLE BORDERS

Join shoulders
 Using 3.25mm needles and with RS facing, pick up and k up 92 (102, 112, 120, 126, 136) sts evenly around armhole
☐ K four rows
☐ Cast off

To make up

Join side seams and armhole borders. Using 3.75mm crochet hook and with RS facing, rejoin yarn to lower corner of right front edge. Work two rows of double crochet all round front and back neck edges, working about eight double crochets for every 14 rows of Ruched patt, and one double crochet in every alternate row along remainder of front edges. Using three lengths of yarn, make a twisted cord and lace through eyelets inside front border as desired **LK**



**coming
next issue**

PAT MENCHINI'S VIBRANT
CARDI

September issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 1st August



VOTE ONLINE@

www.letsknit.co

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VOTE IN THE BRITISH KNITTING AWARDS
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OF AMAZING PRODUCTS FROM THE
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Cast your votes in the British Knitting Awards and you'll be helping to reward all those hardworking people who make your knitting experience special, from the spinners who create the yarn to the shops that sell it, and everyone else in between! What's more you will be entered into a prize draw and could win over £500 of fabulous products from the winning companies – that's a knitting stash made up of goodies from the cream of the knitting world, as voted for by you!



To vote either use the form on the right or log on to www.letsknit.co.uk/britishknittingawards



The Prize

The lucky winner of our prize draw will receive over £500 worth of knitting goodies, from the nation's most popular brands! Winning companies from this year's awards will donate yarn, needles, pattern books, accessories and more, to make your stash the envy of us all.

What to do

Simply tick off your favourites in the boxes provided, or, if your preferred choice isn't mentioned, add them in the space marked 'other'. You can do this on the form provided here or online at

www.letsknit.co.uk/britishknittingawards.

If using the form opposite, post it to us in an envelope marked British Knitting Awards to Marketing Dept., 21-23 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY

This year we have two new categories, Best Brand for British Yarn to celebrate the companies that promote our glorious homegrown fibres, and Best Yarn Shop Day Experience following the success of our Love Your Yarn Shop campaign.

Once all the votes have been counted the results will be announced in the November issue of Let's Knit, on sale Friday 24th October 2014.





VOTE HERE OR ONLINE *to enter*

Best overall yarn brand

- ☐ Stylecraft
☐ Rowan
☐ Debbie Bliss
☐ Sirdar
 Other _____

Best value yarn brand

- ☐ Sirdar
☐ Drops
☐ King Cole
☐ Stylecraft
 Other _____

Best baby yarn brand

- ☐ Debbie Bliss
☐ Deramores
☐ King Cole
☐ Sirdar
 Other _____

Best luxury yarn brand

- ☐ Fyberspates
☐ Noro
☐ Rowan
☐ Debbie Bliss
 Other _____

Best sock yarn brand

- ☐ Opal
☐ Regia
☐ Rowan
☐ Noro
 Other _____

Best independent yarn brand

- ☐ Toft Alpaca
☐ Deramores
☐ Titus (Baa Ram Ewe)
☐ Fyberspates
 Other _____

Best Brand for British Yarn

- ☐ Erika Knight
☐ West Yorkshire Spinners
☐ Jamieson & Smith
☐ Toft Alpaca
 Other _____

Best pattern house

- ☐ King Cole
☐ Debbie Bliss
☐ Rowan
☐ Sirdar
 Other _____

Best knitting designer

- ☐ Kaffe Fassett
☐ Kate Davies
☐ Kim Hargreaves
☐ Debbie Bliss
☐ Martin Storey
 Other _____

Best local independent yarn store NORTH OF ENGLAND

- ☐ Baa Ram Ewe, Leeds
☐ Black Sheep Wools, Warrington
☐ Purl City Yarns, Manchester
☐ Purl & Jane, Skipton
 Other _____

SOUTH OF ENGLAND

- ☐ Get Knitted, Bristol
☐ The Knit Club, Caterham
☐ Loop, Islington, London
☐ Spin A Yarn, Bovey Tracey, Devon
☐ Hoop Haberdashery, Tenterden
☐ Sconch Textiles, Braintree
☐ Pack Lane Wool, Basingstoke
 Other _____

MIDLANDS

- ☐ Toft Studio Shop, Rugby
☐ City Knits (Christine's) Wool Shop, Bournville, Birmingham
☐ Knit Nottingham, Nottingham
☐ Sitting Knitting, Sutton Coldfield
 Other _____

WALES

- ☐ Clare Wools, Aberystwyth
☐ La Mercerie, Cowbridge
☐ Knitters & Sewers World, Swansea
☐ Yarn 'n Yarns, Penarth
☐ Calon Yarns, Cardiff
 Other _____

IRELAND

- ☐ This Is Knit, Dublin
☐ The Textile Studio, Belfast
☐ Selections Wool Shop, Carrickfergus
☐ Parlour Yarns, Carrickfergus
 Other _____

SCOTLAND

- ☐ Ginger Twist Studio, Edinburgh
☐ Fluph, Dundee
☐ Wool For Ewe, Aberdeen
☐ The Yarn Cake, Glasgow
 Other _____

Send this form to:

**Marketing Dept.,
British Knitting Awards,
21-23 Phoenix Court,
Hawkins Road, Colchester,
Essex CO2 8JY.**

Best Yarn Shop Day Experience

- ☐ City Knits (Christine's) Wool Shop, Bournville, Birmingham
☐ Knit Nottingham, Nottingham
☐ The Yarn Cake, Glasgow
☐ Black Sheep Wools, Warrington
☐ Wool for Ewe, Aberdeen
 Other _____

Best chain store

- ☐ Abakhan
☐ Hobbycraft
☐ John Lewis
☐ Boyes
 Other _____

Best online store

- ☐ Black Sheep Wools
☐ Deramores
☐ Loveknitting
☐ Wool Warehouse
 Other _____

Favourite show/event

- ☐ Yarnale (Skipton)
☐ Wonderwool (Wales)
☐ Woolfest (Cumbria)
☐ The Knitting & Stitching Show, (London)
 Other _____

Best blog

- ☐ Attic 24
☐ Kate Davies Designs
☐ Deramores
☐ Loveknitting
 Other _____



Best website

- ☐ Loveknitting
☐ Black Sheep Wools
☐ Ravelry
☐ Deramores
 Other _____

Best knitting needle range

- ☐ Addi
☐ Knit Pro
☐ Milwards
☐ Pony
 Other _____

Best accessories range

- ☐ Clover
☐ Knit Pro
☐ Pony
☐ Milwards
 Other _____

Best ready-to-use knit kits

- ☐ MillaMia
☐ The Little Knitting Company
☐ Toft Alpaca
☐ Rowan
 Other _____

Best book 2014

- ☐ *Stranded Knits* by Ann Kingstone (endorsed by Rowan)
☐ *Coop Knits - Toasty, Volume 1* by Rachel Coopey
☐ *Knit Your Own Zoo* by Sally Muir & Joanna Osbourne (Collins & Brown)
☐ *Knitting Smitten* by Jessica Biscoe (Quadrille Publishing)
 Other _____

PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR DETAILS IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Title _____ First Name _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Signature _____

Closing date to 07/09/2014

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:

All entries must be received by 7th September 2014. This prize draw is open to all UK residents aged 18 or over, excluding employees or agents of the associated companies and their families. Only one entry per person. The prize consists of £500 worth of knitting supplies and will be given away to the first entry drawn at random on 8th September 2014. Entries must be on the forms provided (no purchase necessary) or online at www.letsknit.co.uk/britishknittingawards. Photocopies are NOT accepted. Illegible entries and those that do not abide by the rules and regulations will be disqualified. No responsibility held for entries lost, delayed or damaged in the post, proof of posting is not proof of delivery. No correspondence will be entered into, only the winner will be notified by post. Winner's name and county will be available by sending a SAE marked Let's Knit Awards to: L.Tutthill, British Knitting Awards Organiser, 21-23 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY.

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7 GREAT WAYS TO *Enjoy Let's Knit*

THE APP

Did you know you can buy individual issues or subscribe to Let's Knit magazine on your smartphone or tablet? Download the app for free and purchase issues individually or via a choice of subscription options.

CONTENT

Let's Knit covers projects for beginners to experienced knitters alike; each issue has:

- At least 20 exclusive patterns, including garments, babies and kids patterns, accessories, homewares and quick makes.
- Garment patterns ranging from sizes 8 to 22.
- A complete breakdown of the Knit Kit required for each pattern, any special abbreviations and a Knitwise to help you complete it.
- Inspiration, yarn reviews, insightful features and giveaways; clear, illustrated tutorials on different techniques; shopping pages and sneak peeks at famous knitters' yarn stashes too!

SPECIAL ISSUES

We currently have 12 bookazines available. Titles include:

- How to Knit & Crochet
- Adorable Toys
- Baby Knits
- Creative Home
- Knitted Style Collection

They're brimming full of garments and accessories to make.

BACK ISSUES

If you've missed an issue don't fret, as you can buy back issues via our app, starting from Issue 38, January 2011.

The Let's Knit app is available to download for your tablet or smartphone from Nook, Kindle Newsstand and Apple Newsstand.



MAGAZINE

Let's Knit has 13 issues a year, which means more patterns for our readers. Look out for our Christmas Special issue on sale in September 2014!



WEBSITE

A place to brush up on your knitting skills with our videos and tutorials, pattern abbreviations and errata. Read the blog, enter our monthly giveaways and find over 230 free patterns!



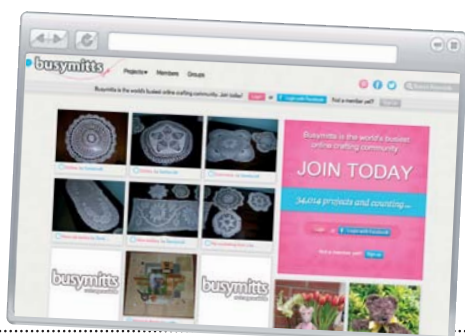
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PINTEREST

Find inspiration with our knitting-related boards and share our wealth of patterns, stash-busting tips and more at www.pinterest.com/letsknitmag



HOME CRAFT FORUM

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Adopt with confidence

Every year thousands of people put their faith and trust in Cats Protection when looking for a new addition to the family. Behind each volunteer and member of staff is a wealth of experience and expertise which means when you adopt one of our cats, you can feel safe in the knowledge that he has been given the best possible care.

When he leaves Cats Protection, your cat will have been treated to a top-to-tail medical.

This means he will have been:

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We also provide four weeks' free insurance (terms and conditions apply) giving invaluable peace of mind and reassurance as you and your cat embark upon this lifelong friendship.

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W: www.cats.org.uk

Reg Charity 203644 (England and Wales) and SC037711 (Scotland)



GO *Alternative*

WEARY OF WOOL? THERE ARE
SO MANY INCREDIBLE FIBRES
TO CHOOSE FROM!

Here at Let's Knit, we're big fans of sheepy yarns. But why limit yourself to just one material when there are so many exciting options out there? From mohair to acrylic, each has its own unique use. We decided to gather together just a few of our favourites!

1 SIRDAR HUSH

A sparkly lace yarn including 27% mohair, this fluffy yarn has a soft brushed appearance with a gentle variation of colour. One 25g ball costs £4.99 from **01379 650640**, www.disswoolandcrafts.com

2 CASHMERED

This unusual 3ply yarn is made in Italy from 100% cashmere. Exquisitely soft and available in 20 delightful colours, one 25g ball costs £12.95 from **01242 256797**, www.cashmered.net

3 THE LITTLE KNITTING COMPANY COTTON RAMIE

Cotton yarns are well-loved for their strength and fabulous stitch definition, but this skein also blends 30% ramie, one of the world's oldest and strongest fibres - used in Egyptian mummy cloths for 2,000 years! One 100g skein of 4ply yarn costs £4.35 from **01367 710362**, www.thelittleknittingcompany.co.uk

4 MIRASOL MISKI

Although not as common as alpaca, llama yarns share many of the properties that make the former so special. Hollow fibres make it both light and insulating, and it is divinely soft to touch. One 50g skein of aran-weight Miski costs £6.95 from **01829 740903**, www.laughinghens.com



5 CYGNET DK

A classic 100% acrylic DK, this versatile yarn is not only fully machine washable, but it comes in a vast range of colours. Great for kids or anyone who is sensitive to animal fibres. One 100g ball costs £1.70 from www.cosywool.co.uk

6 SHI BUI BABY ALPACA

Alpacas have long been a favourite here at Let's Knit! Luxuriously soft and naturally warm, the fleece does not contain lanolin, meaning it can be worn next to the skin without irritation. Find six sumptuous shades of DK yarn for £16.50 per 100g skein at 01241 858608, www.alpacaft.co.uk

7 LOTUS YARNS TIBETAN CLOUD FINGERING

Made from 100% yak fibre, this lightly mottled lace yarn comes in beautiful natural colours. Living in extreme Tibetan weather conditions, yaks produce an ultra warm fleece with a gorgeous lustre halo. One 50g skein costs £11.50 from www.skeinqueen yarns.co.uk

8 KING COLE BAMBOO COTTON

Not only is bamboo-sourced viscose a deliciously soft fibre to work with, but it's also very environmentally friendly! Blended with 50% cotton, the King Cole range comes in DK, variegated DK, and 4ply options. One ball costs £4.96 per 100g ball from www.abakhan.co.uk

Great for toys and children's clothes



Set of two grey-edged baskets from 01446 795594, www.house-envy.co.uk

TWIST & SPIN

RED LACE & BAMBOO
Interchangeables

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knit**

Parallel Lines

This eye-catching sweater by Anniken Allis will jazz up your summer wardrobe.

With its dolman sleeves and wide neckline, Parallel Lines is a simple but effective look that flatters any shape.

The two-tone design has a summer fruits flavour to it and would pair nicely with those staple denim shorts or white linens that always find their way into your suitcase. If you're looking to hone your colourwork skills, this is the ideal project, as it has minimal shaping and a simple pattern repeat.

Modern
design



meet our
DESIGNER

"This colourblocked T-shirt is an easy way to try some simple intarsia. Stripes and colour blocking is right on trend for the coming season."

ANNIKEN ALLIS

Measurements & Sizes

Dress size (approx):

8 (10-12, 14-16, 18-20)

To fit chest (cm):

81 (91-96 102-107 112-117)

Actual chest (cm):

87 (97, 108, 118)

Length (cm):

55 (57, 58.5, 60.5)

Knit Kit

Yarn: Rico Essentials Merino DK, (A) shade 01, (B) shade 13, 3 (3, 4, 4) 50g balls of each

Needles: 4mm straight, 4mm circular

Stitch marker

Tension Square

21 sts x 32 rows
10cm x 10cm
over stripe patt
4mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

Special abbreviations

K st and wrap together on a k row: insert RH needle up through the wrap then into the st. Knit stitch and wrap together.

P st and wrap together on a p row: from the knit side of work, lift the wrap and place it in front of the purl st. Purl stitch and wrap together.

About the Yarn

Rico Essentials Merino DK is a 100% superfine merino superwash yarn in a huge range of shades.

Need an Alternative?

Katia Merino 100% is a DK yarn available in a wide range of interesting colours. It is machine washable.

Let's Shop

Rico Essentials Merino DK costs £3.69 per 50g (120m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

Katia Merino 100% costs £4.29 per 50g (102m) ball from 0800 488 0708, www.deramores.com

For 10% off all orders at Deramores, turn to the back cover

10%
OFF!

STRIPE PATTERN

NOTE: letters after instructions denote yarn shade

- ☐ Row 1: k46 (51, 57, 62) A, k46 (51, 57, 62) B
- ☐ Row 2: p46 (51, 57, 62) B, p46 (51, 57, 62) A
- ☐ Row 3: using yarn A, k to end
- ☐ Row 4: p46 (51, 57, 62) A, p46 (51, 57, 62) B
- ☐ Row 5: using yarn B, k to end
- ☐ Row 6: p46 (51, 57, 62) B, p46 (51, 57, 62) A

Start knitting here

BACK

NOTE: letters after instructions denote yarn shade

Using 4mm needles, yarn A and the long tail cast-on, cast on 46 (51, 57, 62) sts, swap colours around and cast on 46 (51, 57, 62) sts in yarn B. 92 (102, 114, 124) sts

- ☐ Row 1 (WS): k46 (51, 57, 62) B, k46 (51, 57, 62) A
- ☐ Row 2: k46 (51, 57, 62) A, k46 (61, 57, 62) B
- ☐ Rep last two rows once more
- ☐ Rep Row 1 once more. Five rows worked
- ☐ Commence Stripe pattern and work until Back meas 35 (36.5, 36.5, 37.5) cm, ending after a WS row

SLEEVES

- ☐ Next row (RS): k2, m1, patt to last two sts, m1, k2
- ☐ Next row: patt to end
- ☐ Rep last two rows a further three times. 100 (110, 122, 132) sts
- ☐ Next row (RS): using cable cast on method, cast on 15 (19, 21, 23) sts at beg of row, patt to end
- ☐ Next row (WS): using cable cast on method, cast on 15 (19, 21, 23) sts at beg of row, patt to end. 130 (148, 164, 178) sts
- ☐ Work in patt until Back meas 54 (56, 57.5, 59.5) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE RIGHT NECK

- ☐ Next row (RS): work 46 (54, 61, 67) sts in patt, turn. Place rem sts on holder
- ☐ Next row: p1, p2tog, patt to end
- ☐ Next row: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. 44 (52, 59, 65) sts

SHAPE RIGHT SHOULDER

- ☐ Next row (WS): p20 (22, 24, 26), w&t
- ☐ Next row: k to end
- ☐ Next row: p10 (11, 12, 13), w&t
- ☐ Next row: k to end

- ☐ Next row: p to end working wraps tog with sts
- Place all sts on holder

SHAPE LEFT NECK

Place centre 38 (40, 42, 44) sts on holder for back neck. 46 (54, 61, 67) sts

- ☐ Re-attach yarn at neck edge and work in patt to end of row
- ☐ Next row (WS): p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1
- ☐ Next row: k1, ssk, k to end. 44 (52, 59, 65) sts
- ☐ Next row: p to end

SHAPE LEFT SHOULDER

- ☐ Next row (RS): k20 (22, 24, 26), w&t
- ☐ Next row: p to end
- ☐ Next row: k10 (11, 12, 13), w&t
- ☐ Next row: p to end
- ☐ Next row: k to end working wraps tog with sts
- Place all sts on holder

FRONT

NOTE: letters after instructions denote yarn shade

Using 4mm needles, yarn A and long tail cast on, cast on 46 (51, 57, 62) sts, swap colours around and cast on 46 (51, 57, 62) sts in yarn B. 92 (102, 114, 124) sts

- ☐ Row 1 (WS): k46 (51, 57, 62) B, k46 (51, 57, 62) A
- ☐ Row 2: k46 (51, 57, 62) A, k46 (61, 57, 62) B
- ☐ Rep last two rows once more
- ☐ Rep Row 1 once more
- ☐ Commence Stripe pattern and work until Front meas 35 (36.5, 36.5, 37.5) cm, ending after a WS row

SLEEVES

- ☐ Next row (RS): k2, m1, patt to last two sts, m1, k2
- ☐ Next row: patt to end
- ☐ Rep last two rows a further three

times. 100 (110, 122, 132) sts

- ☐ Next row (RS): using cable cast on method, cast on 15 (19, 21, 23) sts at beg of the row, patt to end
- ☐ Next row (WS): using cable cast on method, cast on 15 (19, 21, 23) sts at the beg of row, patt to end. 130 (148, 164, 178) sts

- ☐ Work in patt until Front meas 51 (52, 52.5, 53.5) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE LEFT NECK

- ☐ Next row (RS): work 50 (58, 65, 71) sts in patt, turn. Place rem sts on holder
- ☐ Next row: p1, p2tog, patt to end
- ☐ Next row: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1
- ☐ Rep last two rows a further two times. 44 (52, 59, 65) sts
- ☐ Cont in patt until Left front matches Back to shoulder shaping, ending after a RS row

SHAPE LEFT SHOULDER

- ☐ Next row (WS): p20 (22, 24, 26), w&t
- ☐ Next row: k to end
- ☐ Next row: p10 (11, 12, 13), w&t
- ☐ Next row: k to end
- ☐ Next row: p to end working wraps tog with sts. Place all sts on holder

SHAPE RIGHT NECK

- Place centre 30 (32, 34, 36) sts on holder for Front neck. 50 (58, 65, 71) sts
- ☐ Re-attach yarn at neck edge and work in patt to end of row
- ☐ Next row (WS): p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1
- ☐ Next row: k1, ssk, k to end
- ☐ Rep last two rows a further two times. 44 (52, 59, 65) sts
- ☐ Cont in patt until Right front matches Back to shoulder shaping, ending after a WS row



knitwise

Three-needle cast off

Return each set of stitches to a needle and hold them parallel with WS together. Cast off in the normal way but instead of knitting one stitch on the LH needle each time, knit the stitch on the front and back LH needle together.

"Thin horizontal stripes are always flattering but the panels where the colours reverse on this t-shirt make it even more so."

LK Editorial Assistant **Katie Wilding**

SHAPE RIGHT SHOULDER

- ☐ Next row (RS): k20 (22, 24, 26), w&t
- ☐ Next row: p to end
- ☐ Next row: k10 (11, 12, 13), w&t
- ☐ Next row: p to end
- ☐ Next row: k to end working wraps tog with sts. Place all sts on holder

To make up

Steam press or block both pieces. Join shoulders/top of sleeves by working a three needle cast off on the WS (see Knitwise). Seam underarm and side seams

NECKBAND

NOTE: letters after instructions denote yarn shade

- ☐ Using 4mm circular needle and yarn A, starting at left shoulder, pick up and k 14 (16, 18, 20) sts to Front neck, k30 (32, 34, 36) sts on holder at Front neck, pick up and k 14 (16, 18, 20) sts to right shoulder, pick up and k5 (5, 5, 5) sts to back neck, k38 (40, 42, 44) sts from back neck, pick up and k 5 (5, 5, 5) sts to left shoulder. 106 (114, 122, 130) sts. Join to work in the rnd
- ☐ Rnd 1: using yarn A, p to end
- ☐ Rnd 2: using yarn B, [k2tog, yfwd] to end
- ☐ Rnd 3: using yarn A, p to end
- ☐ Cast off

ARMBAND

- ☐ Using 4mm circular needle and yarn A, starting at the bottom of the sleeve, pick up and k 88 (92, 96, 100) sts around sleeve. Join in the rnd
- ☐ Rnd 1: p to end
- ☐ Rnd 2: k to end
- ☐ Rnd 3: p to end
- ☐ Cast off **LK**

**coming
next issue**

**FISHERMAN'S SWEATER BY
ANNIKEN ALLIS**

September issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 1st August



Trousers, £19.99, TK Maxx;
necklace, £25, Marks & Spencer



Error by Anna Hrachovec,
www.mochimochiland.com

WELCOME TO... *the Weird Wide Web*

Discover the most beautiful and bizarre corners of the internet!

Q&A: Anna Hrachovec

www.mochimochiland.com



Photo: John Teti

From toilets to broken computers, Anna delights in making cute knitted versions of the most unexpected objects! We decided

to find out the story behind her unusual style.

What does Mochimochi mean?

You may be familiar with *mochi*, the sticky rice sweet from Japan? Well, *Mochimochi* is a word that means “mochi-like,” and it’s usually used to describe something soft and squishy. I love *mochi*, and I’m very inspired by Japanese character design, so it seemed like a nice fit for my designs when I started making them.

When did you first start publishing patterns?

I started designing in 2006, initially because I wanted to knit toys as gifts. I published my first pattern in 2007. I think my timing was very good, because knitters were just starting to take the internet by storm and it didn’t take much time for them to notice my work.



Where does the inspiration for the quirkier knits come from?

The original inspiration behind my more unusual designs probably comes from years of watching *Pee-wee’s Playhouse* on Saturday mornings in my childhood. That show, along with the character-filled pop culture that I encountered as an exchange student in Japan, encouraged me to see the world as a place where every rock or house or telephone could potentially be a character with its own distinct personality.

Does being online give people more freedom to “knit outside of the box”, so to speak?

Definitely, the internet has upped the game for anyone who would already be knitting unusual stuff—if you want your work noticed, it has to be something really different now to stand out.

How important has the internet been in helping you gain popularity?

The internet has been essential to my whole career—without it, I would probably be a copyeditor somewhere with a weird knitting hobby. It’s only because knitters found my work online and were enthusiastic enough to buy my patterns that I went on to write four books.

Which social media site is your favourite?

Twitter is my favourite right now, because, at least in my feed, it’s all about sharing ideas both big and small. Facebook has done the most for me promotion-wise, Pinterest is the place to be for

What has been your favourite pin so far this week? How often do you spend tumbling? (And be honest!) When was the last time you tweeted, and did you use any hashtags?

If you have answers to all of those questions, bear with us. And if you’re feeling a little confused, don’t panic – we’re talking about the joys of the internet, which has been revolutionising the way knitters communicate for many years. From Ravelry to Facebook, it’s never been easier to share your makes and pick up tips from fellow knitters around the world.

But social media is good for other things too. The ability to instantly cater to an international audience means that patterns and conversations can become ever-more niche – with very unusual outcomes! Think about it: the chances of meeting someone in your hometown who likes to knit tributes to Harry Potter are relatively slim. But type the boy wizard’s name into a Ravelry search, and you get a choice of almost 500 different patterns!

Thanks to the world wide web, people have more choice than ever before, and we want to celebrate all the weird and wonderful things that have been produced as a result! From knitted loos to tribal masks, read on to discover some of the strangest curiosities of online knitting.

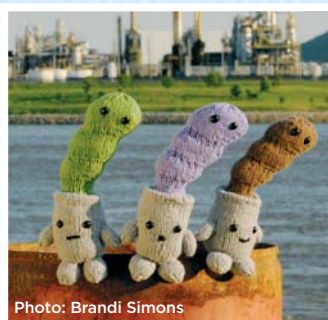


Photo: Brandi Simons

creative businesses, and of course Ravelry can almost go without saying—I’m devoted to it, and it drives a big chunk of the traffic to my website every day.

How easy is it to start your own website and begin putting your work out there?

It’s easier than ever to start a website, but I don’t think it’s so important these days—a Facebook page will do just fine if you don’t want to build a site from scratch. If you have something you’d like to



share with the world, the thing to do is to take some nice photos and just start posting them. It’s easy to get overwhelmed, but the knitters and crocheters on the internet are a supportive group, and they’re just as interested in the person as they are the work itself. So get out there and tell your story!

For more of Anna’s designs, go to www.mochimochiland.com, or find her on Ravelry!

SPOTTED on Ravelry

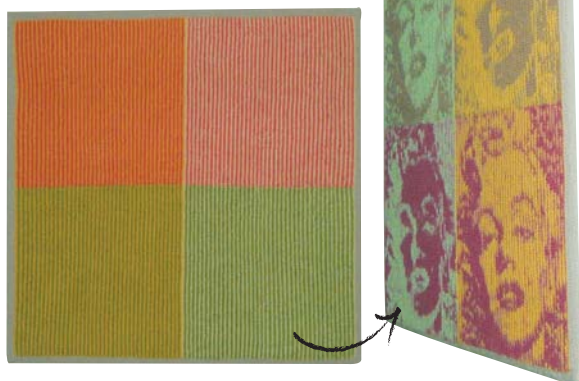


Ravelry is an online resource detailing thousands of patterns from around the world. Just look at some of the incredible designs!



How clever is Alien Autopsy by Emily Stoneking? It makes perfect sense to us that our alien cousins will be made from yarn... www.aKNITomy.etsy.com

We absolutely love the Bobble Bearded Beanie crochet pattern by Ashlee Priskrey, available in baby to adult sizes. www.imtopsyturvy.com



Steve Plummer and Pat Ashforth use illusion knitting to create an incredible tribute to Marilyn Monroe and Andy Warhol. www.illusionknitting.woollythoughts.com

WE ASKED...

"What's your favourite thing about being a knitter online?"



YOU SAID...

"Learning tricks and new skills from more experienced knitters and the older generation - they have many simple tips." **Vanessa Runagall, Facebook**

"I love that, wherever you are in the world, you can be a part of a fantastic knitting community that inspires and supports you!" **@RachWhitbread, Twitter**

"I knit wherever I am, it keeps me focused and my online knitting friends are part of that focus. We can share ideas, help find the right yarns, the right needles, recommend or decry products and just be there for each other." **Linda Nagle, Facebook**

"Apart from the help, seeing all the lovely things others have made, but my 'to do' list is getting longer!" **@elmoljesfinjac, Twitter**

"Feeling part of a beautiful crafting community - engaging in a positive way to make knitting cool!" **Shazia Tahir, Facebook**

"So many resources and endless inspiration. There is nothing about knitting you can't learn online." **@KnittyNadia, Twitter**

"Seeing all the great wools dyed, spun and produced in the UK. #buybritish" **@GraceParetree, Twitter**

Q&A: Tracy Burgess

www.brutal-knitting.tumblr.com

We were so intrigued by Tracy's incredible "brutal knitting" that we got in touch to find out more!



Firstly, what is brutal knitting?

A tip of the hat to Black Metal [the subgenre of heavy metal music].

How did you first start knitting?

I started knitting because I had a flatmate who could knit, and I was rather incensed they possessed this skill when I did not. I decided teaching myself to knit was in order, and that working in the medium of knitting would provide an interesting juxtaposition to my other interests.

Are your masks carefully designed beforehand, or do you tend to just see what happens?

Usually I plot out the schematic of the pieces in correlation to the base mask, primarily to keep the proportions correct. I always knit every piece over and over again until it's right.

How important has the internet been for you?

The internet has been invaluable for providing an easily accessible audience.

Do you often get commissions for more pieces?

The commission proposals tend to be random and sporadic. Something great can come along at any time, which keeps things interesting!

What kinds of things have you been asked to make?

Bespoke blankets, pillows, sweaters, and of course the masks, which are usually used for specific events. I enjoy collaborating with other artists and making knitted versions of their drawings or characters.

Does the internet give people more freedom to knit unusual things?

It stops you being constrained by perceived limitations, as you can see the endless variety and differences in people's knitting.

How would you advise someone who wanted to start putting their work out there?

There are endless tutorials and books on the subject, you just have to take the time to look and, like learning any new skill, set aside an allotted time frame to go through the steps.

You can see more of Tracy's work at brutal-knitting.tumblr.com





SCREENSHOT

EXCLUSIVE PROJECTS
FROM THE HOTTEST
ONLINE KNITTERS



*Woolly Wormhead shares
her love for knitted hats*

WOOLLYWORMHEAD:

*"Self publishing
permits greater
creative freedom"*

Woolly Wormhead has been knitting since the age of three, and has become well-known for her fabulous hat designs. We're delighted to present this exclusive slouchy beanie that's perfect for festivals.

I get inspiration from lots of different places. It could be architecture, nature, the yarn itself, a stitch combination I've seen somewhere, a technique I haven't played with enough or a desire to try a new method of constructing hats. For me, it's all about experimentation.

When knitting a hat my first consideration is whether I can write the

pattern for different sizes. Next, I think about the construction methods used – what would be most practical, what would achieve the result I'm after? Then I think about stitch patterns and surface decoration.

Self publishing permits greater creative freedom, not only in my design process and photography, but in many other aspects such as technique and construction. It also allows me to work as we travel, and to work around my family and community life.

I like to encourage knitters to understand their knitting, how it's constructed, and what you can do with it. Using techniques in clever and different ways is a thing of mine, and I love teaching others how to do the same.

Woolly Wormhead's top tips

Purl two together (p2tog)



1 insert needle into next two stitches as if to purl



2 wrap the yarn around the needle and pull through both loops

- When working your decreases, try to use the tips of your needles only – this will prevent stretching out the stitches and avoid the problem of saggy stitches.
- When casting on to work in the round, working the first row flat then joining makes dealing with dpns or circulars much more manageable and will help avoid twisting the stitches.
- Stitch markers can be life savers – not just for marking the start/end of the round, but also for marking out repeats in the pattern.
- As much as doing a tension square seems like extra work, you might come to regret it later if you skip it – we're all unique and have different tensions – knowing how we compare to the pattern requirements can save a lot of time in the long run!
- With hat knitting, a flatter crown is achieved by not decreasing all the way down to four or six stitches – cut your yarn at around ten or 12 sts and gather up to close. It will look much more flattering, especially on a beanie.

knitwise

THE RIGHT START

This pattern uses a method known as the Alternate cable cast-on, which is brilliant for ribbed edges like the brim of this hat. Here's how you do it:

- 1** Make a slip knot and place it on the needle.
 - 2** Insert the RH needle through the front of the stitch, wrap the yarn around the needle as if to knit and pull the yarn through the loop.
 - 3** Place this loop on the end of the LH needle.
 - 4** Insert the RH needle between the previous two stitches from back to front, wrap the yarn around the needle as if to purl. Pull through the loop and place this on end of the LH needle.
 - 5** Insert the RH needle between the previous two stitches from front to back, wrap the yarn around the needle as if to knit and pull through the loop. Place this loop on the end of the LH needle.
- Rep Steps 4 and 5 until all stitches have been cast on

Find a step-by-step guide to this, and other techniques at
www.woollywormhead.com



SCREENSHOT
PROJECT

Woodland

by Woolly Wormhead

Sizes

To fit head circumference (cm):
45.75 (50.75, 54.5, 57.25, 61) cm

Actual size (cm):
41 (44.5, 48, 51.5, 55) cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Fyberspates Vivacious DK,
shade 803 Silver & Bronze, 1 (1,
1, 1, 2) 115g skeins

Needles: 3.75mm, 4mm, both
double-pointed, sets of five

Stitch marker

Tapestry needle

This hat does not use full skeins.
Here are the exact yarn
requirements:

102 (133, 166, 200, 240) m

Tension Square

21 sts x 30 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
4mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

Special Abbreviations

ssp: sl next two sts kwise one at a time,
return sts to LH needle, p2tog tbl

About the Yarn

Fyberspates Vivacious DK is a pure
wool yarn with a wonderful tonal
effect and great depth of colour. It
comes in 11 bright shades and can
be machine washed.

Need an alternative yarn?



West Yorkshire Spinners
Bluefaced Leicester DK is a
pure British wool that
comes in solid (50g) or
patterned (100g) options. It
can also be machine washed.

Let's Shop

Fyberspates Vivacious DK costs
£15.58 per 115g (230m) skein from
01244 389310,
www.stashfineyarns.com



West Yorkshire Spinners
Bluefaced Leicester DK
costs £4.25 per 50g (112m)
ball from 07974 954663,
www.awoollytail.com

Start knitting here

BRIM

Using 3.75mm dpns and Alternate cable cast-on method [see Knitwise on page 46], cast on 88 (96, 104, 112, 120) sts, join in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts, pm to indicate start of rnd

□ Rnd 1: * k1 tbl, p1, rep from * to end This row sets rib

□ Work in rib until Brim meas 2.5 (2.5, 3.25, 3.75, 4.5) cm

□ Next rnd (inc): * [k1 tbl, p1] twice, k1 tbl, mlp, p3, mlp, rep from * to end. 110 (120, 130, 140, 150) sts

Change to 4mm needles

MAIN BODY

□ Rnd 1: * p2, k1 tbl, p7, rep from * to end

□ Rnd 2: p

□ Rnd 3: * p7, k1 tbl, p2, rep from * to end

□ Rnd 4: * p5, [k1 tbl, p1] twice, k1 tbl, rep from * to end

□ Rnd 5: * p7, k1 tbl, p2, rep from * to end

□ Rnd 6: p

□ Rnd 7: * p2, k1 tbl, p7, rep from * to end

□ Rnd 8: [k1 tbl, p1] twice, k1 tbl,

p5, rep from * to end

These eight rnds set patt

□ Work in patt until Main body meas 10 (12.5, 14.5, 16.5, 18.5), ending after a patt Rnd 2 or Rnd 6

CROWN

□ Rnd 1: p

□ Rnd 2: * p2tog, ssp, rep from * to last 2 (0, 2, 0, 2) sts, [p2tog] 1 (0, 1, 0, 1) times. 55 (60, 65, 70, 75) sts

□ Rnds 3-5: p

□ Rnd 6: * p2tog, ssp, rep from * to last 3 (0, 1, 2, 3) sts, [p2tog] 1 (0, 0, 1, 1) times, p1 (0, 1, 0, 1). 28 (30, 33, 35, 38) sts

□ Rnds 7-8: p

□ Rnd 9: * p2tog, ssp, rep from * to last 0 (2, 1, 3, 2) sts, [p2tog] 0 (1, 0, 1, 1) times, p0 (0, 1, 1, 0). 14 (15, 17, 18, 19) sts

□ Rnd 10: p

□ Cut yarn, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

To make up

Weave in all ends. A gentle wash and blocking is required to help the decrease lines settle in and lay flat **LK**



**Saturday 6th
& Sunday 7th
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coming up in the NEXT ISSUE...

FREE!

toy yarn kit
with exclusive
eyelash yarn



Knit Rusty
the Squirrel
and his
acorn!



PLUS

alternative baby
bootees pattern

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Simple shawllette

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● Quick-knit tween accessories
● Crochet homewares

September issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 1st August 2014

Why not take up a trial to Let's Knit with 3 issues for just £6!* go to www.letsknit.co.uk/LKN14T



Star LETTER

"I have been knitting for 60 years and my husband has been an onlooker. Now, at the age of 72, I decided my husband should learn to knit. He is disabled so manual tasks are very hard. I taught him five weeks ago and there have been great results. Here is the beach bag he knitted, which I lined and decorated. He also made the pompoms for the rug and his next task is making some cushions from issue 79 of Let's Knit. So you see, you're never too old to learn. I love your magazine and can't wait for the next issue."

Mrs R. Norris

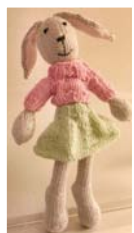
We love receiving letters like this and it makes our day to hear about knitters passing on their favourite hobby. It's lovely that you've shared your skill with your husband and that he's taken to it so well. It sounds like there's no stopping him now! We hope you both enjoy your Star Letter prize!



STOP & SHARE

STORIES AND MAKES GALORE FROM OUR WONDERFUL READERS

HERE'S WHAT YOU'VE MADE:



"I made this for my daughter Grace from issue 64. I got the jumper pattern from a book and decided to make a skirt to get over the tail problem."

Inge Hoy

"One of my son's friends had already asked me to knit some mice for the children as favours at her wedding next year. I couldn't resist making her a bridal party set to go with them. I made a little bridesmaid by reducing the needle size and cutting a couple of stitches off the ears and arms to keep them in proportion!"

Fiona Hook



Star make

WE ASKED YOU ON FACEBOOK:



Where is your favourite place to knit?

80% said the sofa

13% said in bed

5% said at your knitting group or yarn shop

2% said in the garden

"I knitted this pirate bunny for my friend. It's the second one I've made!"

Dawn Brown



"I made a pretty flower wreath for the front door."

Jackie Sawyer



"I've just started knitting again and I love Baa-bara (issue 78) so much, I dug into my stash and knitted eight more!"

Norma Bellis



WE ASKED ON TWITTER...

How many WIPs do you usually have on the go at once?
(Go on, be honest!)

HERE'S WHAT YOU SAID:

Before Christmas I had a record of 12!

@bluebirdanielle

You're kidding, right? 8 or 9 that I work on daily, plus a few dozen that I rotate in. And they all eventually get finished.

@Bbl_Astrophyscs

Good question... Have counted 5 knits & 3 crochets at the moment - the smaller ones are for doing on the move & bigger at home.

@MyNannaKnits

3: something for me, something for my baby daughter + tour de France bunting. Projects live round house depending where baby sleeps!

@Emma_zemzem

Hmmm, I have about 15-20 that have been on for a looong time. I never finish anything for myself, only others!

@alpacaaddict

4 or 5, but when one finishes, I might start another 3 from my super long queue list.

@saralai



Why I love my local yarn shop

Nutmeg Needlecrafts in Leighton Buzzard is an amazing yarn shop that makes you feel like you've fallen down the rabbit hole straight into Wonderland!

Alice Kierstenson

Let us know why you love your local yarn shop by emailing katie.wilding@aceville.co.uk



"I've just completed this cushion from the May issue."
Mandy Horton

"I thought you might like to see Khalessi in the Kelsey dress I downloaded from your website. As you can see, she loved it. I didn't have the right size circular needle so used dpns instead, which worked perfectly. When my other granddaughter saw Bosco, she was disappointed it was for a Kindle so, as suggested, I adapted it to fit her mini tablet. I can't wait to see her face next weekend."

@beshabar



"I upcycled a clock today so it can always be knitting time!"
Vicky Featherstonehaugh

WIN!



Prizes supplied by
loveknitting

Our Star Letter winner this month has won Rowan Knitting and Crochet Magazine #52 and 5 balls of Rowan Lima.



This month's Star Make winner will receive Debbie Bliss Rustic Knits and 3 balls of Debbie Bliss Winter Garden.

Tip OF THE MONTH

Always have a bag handy at your side to pop your tail ends of wool in. Soon enough you'll have a full bag; this makes great stuffing material for your next project.

Sarah, Manchester

PRINTED TIPS WIN A £10 VOUCHER TO SPEND AT BLACK SHEEP WOOLS



PINS AND NEEDLES

This month we've got picnic treats on our minds and we found oodles of inspiration on Pinterest to start knitting them. Follow our Summer Snacks board for lots more where they came from!

tumblr.com



etsy.com



Gracie Levack



[Pinterest.com/letsknitmag](https://www.pinterest.com/letsknitmag)

Get in touch

Send us photos of your makes, tell us about your experiences, share tips or answer questions and polls.



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TEA Break

SETTLE DOWN WITH A CUPPA TO READ, RELAX AND TEST YOUR KNITTY KNOWLEDGE

LET'S KNIT'S QUICK QUIZ

How much do you know about your favourite hobby? Take our fun quiz to find out!

1. Mohair comes from which animal?
2. In which year was spinner King Cole founded?
3. What is an alternative name for Swiss darning?
4. Which Charles Dickens character secretly encoded messages into her knitting?
5. Which island has given its name to a style of stranded colourwork?

NAME THAT YARN

Here are three clues to our mystery yarn. Is it one that's in your stash?

- It also comes in striped and sparkly variations
- It's great for lightweight sweaters and shrugs
- It's a light and airy mix of 76% mohair and 24% silk



Caption Competition

Email katie.wilding@aceville.co.uk with your caption and we'll publish the winning entry in our next issue!

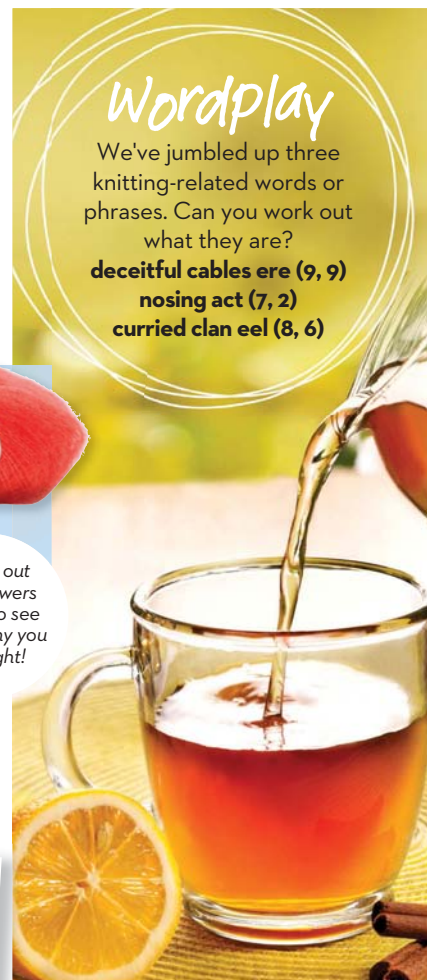
Last issue, we asked what baby Emma was thinking and here's our favourite caption: "Crochet? You did NOT just call this crochet..." Congratulations to **Anji Masse**.



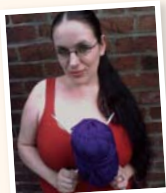
Wordplay

We've jumbled up three knitting-related words or phrases. Can you work out what they are?

- deceitful cables ere (9, 9)**
nosing act (7, 2)
curried clan eel (8, 6)



PURLS OF WISDOM



By Claire Thomas

Seize the Day!

My husband emerged into the sitting room recently to find me knitting. Nothing odd about this. In fact, it would have been stranger if he had walked in and found me not knitting, especially as the new baby approaches and I start to look more and more globular, and move less and less. Nevertheless he seemed to be boggling at me, as though surprised.

"Am I doing something odd?" I asked with some asperity.

"Not at all," he returned. "I was just wondering whether you knew you had a big piece of yarn in your hair?"

Well, that took the wind out of my sails a bit. The truth was that I hadn't looked in the mirror since that morning. And when I did, I noticed that I had a streak of mascara over my cheek and a small, but perfectly formed, peanut

butter handprint on my stomach, courtesy of my two year-old. I looked, in short, a bit of a mess. As I appraised myself thus, I noticed that behind me was a pile of things to do that I had

"The truth is that sometimes knitting just can't wait. Not because I want to do it – although I always do – but because time is short"

ignored in favour of making two pairs of Converse-style booties for the new baby. A teetering pile of laundry hadn't been put away; my tax return sat neglected on the desk; the cookery book was open at a recipe I should have started at least an hour before. And the booties still weren't finished.

As I changed my T-shirt and brightly suggested fish fingers for tea instead, I thought about this. The truth is that sometimes knitting just can't wait. Not because I want to do it – although I always do – but because time is short. Soon this baby will be here, and there will be no time to knit until his feet are far too big for booties and, indeed, are possibly in school shoes. I have to make them now, or not make them at all. Which, as it would be to any knitter, is unthinkable.

I'm not the only knitter who has worked this out lately. My aunt became a grandma again last year, to a beautiful little girl who lives a long way away. Once a competent knitter, she picked up the needles again to make her new granddaughter a cardigan. My needles, to be precise. Along with my yarn. And my pattern books. As her guiding spirit, I dispensed my copious free advice, suggesting that she make a larger size than she was planning to in case she found it took her longer to knit than she expected, to avoid the horror of presenting her little darling with a cardigan that clearly was never going to button up. She agreed – but her hatred of picking up stitches for the buttonband led to procrastination, and the cardigan languished unfinished until the baby had long since

outgrown even the larger size. Heartbreaking, I tell you.

And so, the laundry stays on the sofa, my children scoff fish fingers for tea, and I knit. Because I've learnt that if I don't knit now, my baby won't have those Converse booties. And because my aunt, too, is keen to learn from her harsh lesson, I've supplied her with new yarn, a pattern for a summer hat, and my advice: to seize the day.

Claire Thomas is a freelance journalist and founder of Stitch 'n' Bitch group, Knit Pickers



How did you do?

Quick Quiz: 1. Goat 2. 1935 3. Duplicate stitch 4. Madame Defarge 5. Fair Isle
Word Play: 1. Bluefaced Leicester 2. Casting on 3. Circular needle Name that yarn: Debbie Bliss Angel

EXCLUSIVE TO
Let's
knit

Party Time

Prepare for a summer fiesta with these fabulous speedy makes by Susie Johns

Create a festival atmosphere with these fun party decorations. Make a cactus as a table centerpiece, coasters to jazz up wine glasses, and a string of spiral bunting to adorn the room – or to suspend between tree branches if the party is outdoors. You will also find patterns for a large and a small flower. You can use the small flower to decorate the top of the cactus, but why not also make a whole collection of multicoloured flowers to scatter over the tables?



meet our
DESIGNER

"These decorations would be perfect for a Mexican fiesta, with a cactus centrepiece on every table and some chilled sangria in every glass!"

SUSIE JOHNS



Measurements & sizes

Bunting: length approx 1.7m

Coaster: fits average size wine glass

Cactus: height approx 13cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Patons 100% Cotton DK, (A) shade 2691 White, (B) shade 2703 Kiwi, (C) shade 2725 Bright Pink, (D) shade 2740 Yellow, (E) shade 2734 Candy, (F) shade 2741 Neroli, (G) shade 2726 Jade, one 100g ball of each, (H) Patons Diploma Gold DK, shade 6237 Taupe, one 50g ball

Needles: 3.25mm, 3.75mm

Button: one per coaster

Thick cardboard

Bucket or flower pot

Polyester wadding

Tapestry needle

Stitch marker

Tension Square

22 sts x 30 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
3.75mm needles

Special Abbreviations

inc2 – increase two: k into the front, back and front of next st

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Patons 100% Cotton DK is smooth and easy to knit with, and comes in a really attractive palette of colours

Need an Alternative?

Rico Essentials Cotton DK is a cotton yarn that comes in 50g balls in over 40 colours!

Let's Shop

Patons 100% Cotton DK costs £4.69 per 100g (210m) ball and Patons Diploma Gold DK costs £2.85 per 50g (120m) ball from 0845 576 0007, www.loveknitting.com

To get 10% off all orders at Love Knitting, turn to page 25

Rico Essentials Cotton DK costs £2.50 per 50g (130m) ball from 01522 522865, www.spinsandneedles.myshopify.com



QUICK KNITS

Start knitting here

BUNTING

SPIRAL (make 14 in assorted colours)

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn of choice, cast on 25 sts

- ☐ Row 1: (inc2) in each st. 75 sts
- ☐ Row 2: sl 1, k to end
- ☐ Row 3: as Row 2
- ☐ Cast off

To make up

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on 60 sts

- ☐ Cast on 40 sts, * pick up and k three sts across end of one spiral, cast on 20 sts, rep from * until all spirals have been joined, cast on 40 sts, turn
- ☐ K tbl across row
- ☐ Cast off

COASTER

Using 3.75mm needles and yarn of choice, cast on ten sts

- ☐ Row 1: p
- ☐ Row 2: (kfb) in each st. 20 sts
- ☐ Row 3: p
- ☐ Row 4: (k1, kfb) ten times. 30 sts
- ☐ Row 5: p
- ☐ Row 6: (k2, kfb) ten times. 40 sts
- ☐ Row 7: p
- ☐ Row 8: (k3, kfb) ten times. 50 sts
- ☐ Row 9: p
- ☐ Row 10: (k4, kfb) ten times. 60 sts
- ☐ Row 11: p
- ☐ Row 12: (k4, k2tog) ten times, pm at end of row. 50 sts
- ☐ Row 13: p
- ☐ Row 14: (k3, k2tog) ten times.

40 sts

- ☐ Row 15: p
- ☐ Row 16: (k2, k2tog) ten times. 30 sts
- ☐ Row 17: p
- ☐ Row 18: (k1, k2tog) ten times. 20 sts
- ☐ Row 19: (p2tog) ten times
- ☐ Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem ten sts

To make up

Pull up tail of yarn, then thread through tapestry needle and join side edges to position of stitch marker to form base, then stitch button loop on open edge and sew corresponding button

SMALL FLOWER

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn C, cast on six sts

- ☐ Row 1: k tbl across row
- ☐ Row 2: p
- ☐ Row 3: cast off five sts. One st
- ☐ Row 4: p1, turn and cast on five sts. Six sts
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-4 three times in total, then Rows 1-2 once more
- ☐ Cast off
- ☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail

LARGE FLOWER

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn C, cast on eight sts

- ☐ Row 1: k tbl across row
- ☐ Row 2: p
- ☐ Row 3: kfb, k to end. Nine sts
- ☐ Row 4: p
- ☐ Row 5: cast off seven sts, k1. Two sts



knitwise

Pick me up

When stringing the bunting together, you will have to pick up and knit stitches at the top of each spiral. Swap your needles so that the cast-on stitches are in your right hand. Insert your right-hand needle into the far-right selvedge stitch at the top of your spiral. Wrap the yarn around the needle anti-clockwise, and then pull through the loop. Working towards the left, repeat this action twice more, so that there are three new stitches on your needle. Finally swap your needles back so the stitches are in your left hand, and continue casting on.

- ☐ Row 6: p2, turn, cast on six sts. Eight sts
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-6 three times in total, then Rows 1-4 once more
- ☐ Cast off
- ☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail

To make up

Thread tail of yarn through tapestry needle and run through stitches at base of each petal, pull up to gather and close up hole in centre of flower. To make yellow centre, cast on ten stitches, then slip these off needle. Run tail of yarn through stitch loops and pull up. Stitch to centre of flower

CACTUS

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn B, cast on 24 sts

- ☐ Row 1 (RS): p
- ☐ Row 2: k15, turn
- ☐ Row 3: p15
- ☐ Row 4: k to end
- ☐ Row 5: p to end
- ☐ Rep Rows 2-5 four times more
- ☐ Cast off

COMPOST

Using 3.75mm needles and yarn H, cast on 11 sts

- ☐ Row 1: k
- ☐ Row 2: kfb, k to end. 12 sts
- ☐ Rows 3-9: Rep Row 2 seven times more. 19 sts
- ☐ Rows 10-25: k
- ☐ Rows 26-33: k2tog, k to end. 11 sts
- ☐ Cast off
- ☐ Cut yarn, leaving a long tail

To make up

With knitted side of Cactus facing inwards, join cast-on and cast-off edges. Gather top and pull up to close. Stitch small flower to top of Cactus. Fill cactus with stuffing. Cut a 7.5cm circle from thick card. Thread tail of yarn from Compost through tapestry needle and sew running stitch around perimeter of knitted piece, then place cardboard circle in centre of wrong side and pull up yarn so that knitting encloses cardboard. Fasten off. Stitch base of Cactus to centre top of Compost. Insert Compost into small bucket or flowerpot. Either glue edges of compost to inside of bucket, or leave it loose and fill with sweets as a surprise for guests **LK**



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flower

black
sheep
wools
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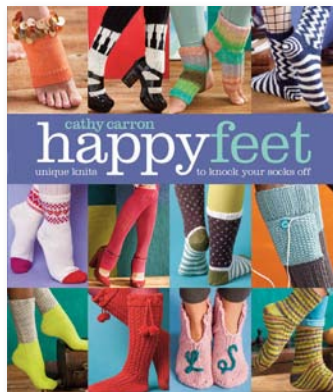
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HAPPY FEET

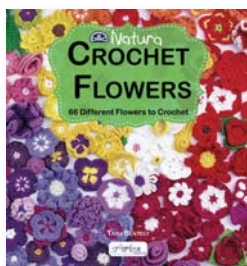
Cathy Carron (£11.77, Sixth & Spring Books)

Sock knitters will be delighted with this collection of fun and quirky patterns, featuring all manner of bobbles, colourwork and cables. There's even a very imaginative pair with a pocket (or rather, a "socket") for storing keys, spare change, and other supplies! If there's one thing most knitters have in common, it's a talent for

combining invention with practicality! If you're after something a little more stylish, there's also a wonderful selection of lacy socks, knee-highs and legwarmers. Whether you're a seasoned sock knitter or a bashful beginner, there's sure to be something to catch your eye.

www.thegmcgroup.com

LK SAYS: We love the funky, fresh designs in this brilliant new book!



NATURA CROCHET FLOWERS

Tash Bentley (£10.99, Tuva Publishing)

There's no limit to the usefulness of easy, quick-to-make flowers. They can form part of a yarnbombing project, be worn as a simple brooch, or be used to spruce up an

otherwise plain project. For those of us suffering with hayfever, they might even be better than the real thing! These 66 different flower patterns are designed using DMC Natura Crochet Cotton, which comes in 60 vibrant colours. From granny square motifs to more realistic flowers, bring a little nature into your life.

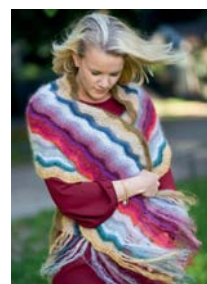
www.dmccreative.co.uk



CROCHET SCANDINAVIAN STYLE

Eva Wincent and Paula Hammerskog (£12.99, Search Press)

The clean, modern lines of Scandi design are not just popular in the yarn world – they are loved across the globe for their elegant simplicity. The dynamic duo Eva Wincent and Paula Hammerskog have put together a fabulous collection of over 40 Scandinavian-inspired crochet designs, from pillows and rugs for the home, to stylish jackets and scarves. The book also features incredibly detailed instructions on how to get started and the materials required, as well as more advanced techniques for the experienced crafters. A fantastic resource for crocheters old and new! www.searchpress.com



We also **LOVE...**



MEETING THE PRESSER

mtp.ekit.co.uk



Researchers at the University of Leicester have created a new web film app which

explores the fascinating history of framework knitting in the East Midlands. Discover the story through the words and pictures taken from local testimony.

BLOG GIRL WITH A DUCK JUMPER

girlwithaduckjumper.com



Sara is a graphic designer, photographer and web designer living in London who simply loves to knit toys! Her quirky blog is full of beautiful doodles and illustrations which bring to life the story of her passion for knitting and crochet.

Pick up a skill!



KNITTING DOUBLE

Anja Belle (£10.99, Search Press)

Learn to knit reversible fabrics on just one pair of needles using this brilliant two-colour technique. Warm and versatile, it's ideal for scarves, blankets and other projects with two right sides!

www.searchpress.com

Fox Trot

*Your youngsters will be begging you to knit **Tina Barrett's** animal-motif jumper*

EXCLUSIVE TO



Woodland critters are still a popular choice and we love the sleepy fox face on this intarsia sweater. Oversized jumpers are right on trend, so your budding fashionistas are sure to be delighted with this cosy project. If you're feeling really creative, you could design your own animal chart – just make sure it is the same dimensions as the one provided.



meet our
DESIGNER

"I had so much fun designing this cosy oversized woodland sweater. The raglan shape is nice and simple which frees you up to concentrate on the cute intarsia motif"

TINA BARRETT

Measurements & sizes

To fit age (yrs):

7-8 (9-10, 11-12)

Actual chest (cm):

95 (104, 109)

Length from shoulder (cm):

52 (55, 61)

Sleeve length from underarm (cm):

34 (40, 43)

Knit Kit

Yarn: King Cole Comfort Aran, (A) shade 319 Dill, five 100g balls, (B) shade 347 Cork, (C) shade 313 Silver, (D) shade 333 Cream, one 100g ball of each, small amount of black aran weight yarn

Needles: 4.5mm straight, 4.5mm circular, 5mm straight

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

18 sts x 25 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
5mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

King Cole Comfort Aran is a soft mix of acrylic and nylon. It's machine washable and can be tumble dried so is a good choice for rough 'n' tumble kids.

Need an Alternative?

Stylecraft Special Aran is another acrylic aran-weight yarn that is a practical choice for growing children.

Let's Shop

King Cole Comfort Aran costs £3.59 per 100g (202m) ball from 0800 488 0708, www.deramores.com

To get 10% off all orders at Deramores, turn to the back cover

Stylecraft Special Aran costs £1.79 per 100g (196m) ball from 01376 743123, www.sconchtextiles.co.uk

Start knitting here

BACK

Using 5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 88 (96, 100) sts
□ Beg with a k row, work in st st until Back meas 25 (27, 32) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE RAGLANS

□ Cast off five sts at beg of next two rows. 78 (86, 90) sts
□ Next row: k3, skpo, k to last five sts, k2tog, k3. 76 (84, 88) sts
□ Next row: p
□ Rep last two rows until 28 (32, 34) sts rem, ending after a WS row
Leave sts on a holder

LEFT LOWER FRONT

Using 5mm needles and yarn A, cast on three sts
□ Row 1: k to last st, kfb. Four sts
□ Row 2: pfb, p to end. Five sts
□ Cont to inc as set until there are 26 (28, 30) sts
Cut yarn and leave sts on a holder

RIGHT LOWER FRONT

Using 5mm needles and yarn A, cast on three sts
□ Row 1: kfb, k to end. Four sts
□ Row 2: p to last st, pfb. Five sts
□ Cont to inc as set until there are 26 (28, 30) sts
□ Next row: p across 26 (28, 30) sts



knitwise

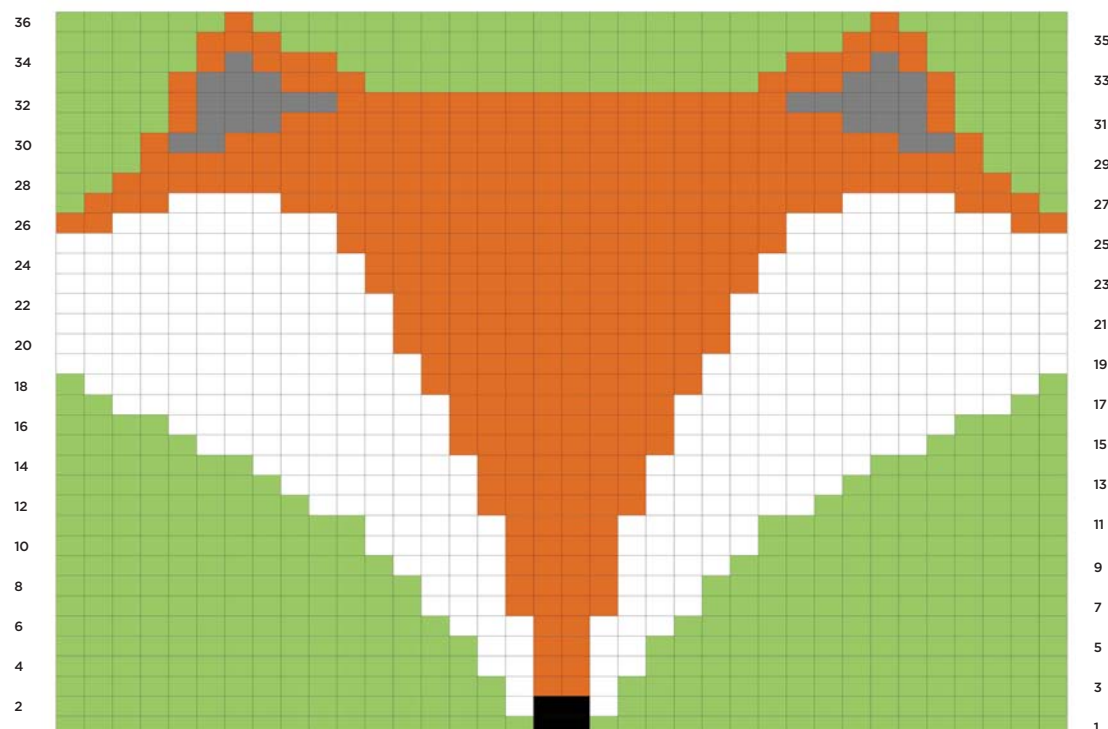
Top of the Charts

Some knitters find it easier to follow a pictorial representation rather than trying to keep their place in a long string of instructions. Most knitting charts are worked from the bottom to the top. Right side rows are read from right to left, and wrong side rows are worked back the other way – just like your rows of knitting. The coloured boxes indicate which yarn to use. This sweater uses the intarsia method. Before you begin, wind small bobbins of each yarn and use a new bobbin for each colour section on the row, twisting the strands together to avoid getting a hole.

AT THE SAME TIME, when front meas 25 (27, 32) cm at side seam edge, ending after a WS row, shape raglans as follows:

SHAPE RAGLANS

□ Cast off five sts at beg of next two rows. 78 (86, 90) sts
□ Next row: k3, skpo, k to last five sts, k2tog, k3. 76 (84, 88) sts
□ Next row: p
□ Rep last two rows until 28 (32, 34) sts rem, ending after a WS row
Leave these sts on a holder



"This sweater is designed to be oversized for tweens, but it won't take much altering to fit a small adult – just add more length to the sleeves and body."

LK Deputy Editor
Adrienne Chandler

SLEEVES

- Using 4.5mm needles and yarn A,
cast on 44 (48, 48) sts
□ Row 1: [k2, p2] to end
This row sets 2x2 rib
□ Cont in 2x2 rib until work meas
4cm, ending after a WS row
Change to 5mm needles
□ Beg with a k row, work 6 (2, 2)
rows in st st
□ Next row: k3, m1, k to last three
sts, m1, k3. 46 (50, 50) sts
□ Cont in st st inc as set on every
4th (6th, 6th) row until 72 (76, 78)
sts rem
□ Cont in st st until Sleeve meas
34 (40, 43) cm, ending after a p row

SHAPE RAGLANS

- Cast off five sts at beg of next
two rows. 62 (66, 68) sts
□ Next row: k3, skpo, k to last five
sts, k2tog, k3. 60 (64, 66) sts
□ Next row: p
□ Rep last two rows until 12 sts
rem, ending after a WS row
Leave sts on a holder

NECKBAND

- Join three raglan seams, leaving
left back raglan open
□ Using 4.5mm needles and with
RS facing, k12 from left sleeve
holder, k28 (32, 34) from Front
holder, k12 from right sleeve
holder and k28 (32, 34) from Back
holder. 80 (88, 92) sts
□ Beg with a p row, work 12 rows
in st st
□ K two rows
□ Cast off kwise
Join raglan and neckband seam.
Weave in ends, and join side and
Sleeve seams

LOWER BAND

- Using 4.5mm circular needle
and with RS facing, join
yarn A at left back seam
□ Pick up and k 88 (96, 100) sts
across lower back and 88 (96, 100)
sts along lower curved Front edge.
176 (192, 200) sts
Join in the rnd taking care
not to twist sts
□ Work in 2x2 rib as before for
3cm, ending after a WS row
□ Cast off loosely in rib

FACE

- Thread a tapestry needle with a
small amount of black yarn.
Using photo as a guide, embroider
the eyes and eyelash detail
using back stitch **LK**



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Hooked on CROCHET

Never tried crochet before?
Well, here's why
you should!

Here at LK we've never been in favour of the knitting versus crochet debate and feel that they should live harmoniously, side-by-side in this fibre-filled world. Both are such different creative outlets and there's always room for a new technique in your crafty repertoire. Here, we explain all about crochet, and whether you're a complete newbie or have dabbled in the past, there are plenty of reasons why you should take up the hook.

WHAT IS CROCHET?

The technique involves creating loops of yarn, known as chain stitches. These can be developed into a whole range of stitches and effects. It was traditionally used to make imitation lace items, leading to the development of distinctive styles, such as Irish and filet lace. Irish lace became particularly prevalent during the 19th century potato famine when charity groups taught women to crochet to help them support their families. Filet crochet is a technique that produces a square grid-like mesh with picture motifs.



Harmony from Rowan Mag 55 uses filet crochet techniques

WHAT WILL I NEED?

Crochet is worked using a hook; these are usually around 10-15cm long and, like knitting needles, come in plastic, wooden or metal varieties. Traditional crochet is worked using a fine cotton yarn. Instead of being categorised as 4ply or DK, crochet cotton is graded by number – usually 3, 5 or 8. The higher the number, the thinner the yarn. However, almost any yarn can be used to crochet. When you're starting out, use a yarn that is tightly spun so it's less likely to split as you work.

Did you know?

Queen Victoria loved to crochet! This helped the craft lose its 'poor man's lace' tag and grow in popularity.

Designed by Nicki Trench for Debbie Bliss Crochet Living, www.designeryarns.uk.com

3 OF THE BEST yarns for crochet

1 Cygnet Silcaress is a great value acrylic yarn with a soft, silky finish. The tight twist makes it easy to work with and gives excellent stitch definition making it well suited to crochet. £1.59 per 50g (103m) ball from **01376 743123**, www.sconchtextiles.com

2 Patons 100% Cotton DK is cotton yarn that has undergone a mercerisation process to make it stronger and give it a pretty sheen. It produces well-structured crochet pieces. £4.69 per 100g (210m) ball from **0845 576 0007**, www.loveknitting.com

3 Stylecraft Special DK is a smooth acrylic yarn favoured by crocheter Lucy on her popular blog Attic24. It comes in a fab range of shades. £1.69 per 100g (295m) ball from **0800 505 3300**, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

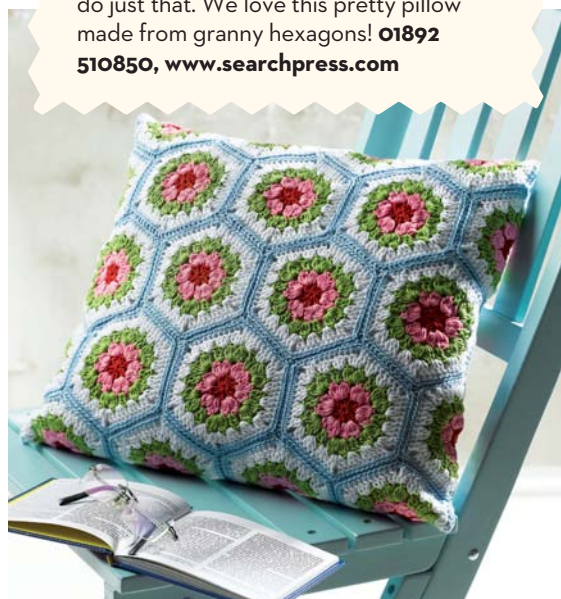


REASONS *to Love* CROCHET

GRANNY SQUARE STYLE

One of the most recognisable crochet techniques, granny squares are great for beginners. They're made up of chain and treble crochet stitches so are easy to learn, and are a fantastic way to use up your stash. Granny squares have a retro chic and work well in homewares, like blankets and cushions. You can use all sorts of colour combinations to create different effects.

Once you've mastered the basic square, you can apply the technique to a range of motifs. *Granny Squares All Shapes and Sizes* by Beatrice Simon and Barbara Wilder (£10.99, Search Press) will help you do just that. We love this pretty pillow made from granny hexagons! **01892 510850, www.searchpress.com**



Handmade homewares

It's not just granny squares that make good projects for the home. T-shirt yarn, like Hoooked Zpagetti, can be used to create super chunky designs in next to no time. The yarn is made from off-cuts of fabric from the fashion industry and is perfect for rugs and other statement pieces. This eye-catching set was made by Susie Johns and is available to download for free from **www.letsknit.co.uk**



FREE
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PATTERN



Hoooked Zpagetti comes in solid or patterned colour effects and the recommended hook size is between 8mm and 12mm. It costs £8.99 per 100g (120m) cone from **0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk**

Practise making granny squares with this fabulous retro-inspired cushion from Cygnet! Find the pattern for free at www.letsknit.co.uk



LOVELY LACE

Crochet became popular because of its beautiful openwork fabrics and they look just as impressive today. The effect is created by using strings of chain stitches to break up the design. Why not combine lacy elements with more structured stitches, like in this vibrant sweater from King Cole? It's pattern 3899 and is made in the brand's Giza Cotton DK, a mercerised yarn that comes in rich shades - this jumper looks great when worn over a simple vest. For stockists, call **01756 703670** or visit **www.kingcole.co.uk**



Elegant shawls are the perfect outlet for lacy crochet patterns. They're light, airy and make wonderful summer accessories. This one is featured on the Sirdar pattern leaflet 7015 and is worked in Sirdar Ella, a sparkly cotton-blend yarn. The semi-circular shape means it will hug your shoulders and keep you wrapped up and looking fabulous all season long! Call **01924 231 682** or go to **www.sirdar.co.uk** to find a stockist near you.



CRAFTY COMBOS

Although knitting and crochet are very different, they can easily be combined into one project. Crochet is brilliant for edgings, trims and embellishments, or it can be used to add lacy detail to a solid knit.



Finish your knit with a lacy crocheted yoke, from *Bergere de France Mag 166*

Try adding a crocheted collar, from *Bergere de France Creations 13/14*



Easy accessories

Set up by Thomas Jaenisch and Felix Rohland, My Boshi elevates the humble beanie hat into a vibrant must-have accessory. Boshi means beanie in Japanese, and Felix and Thomas came up with a way of enabling customers to personalise their hats. Non-crafters can order their design online, while us fibre fans can crochet our own, using the exclusive My Boshi yarn and pattern collection. The yarn is a merino-acrylic blend and is super chunky, so you could easily whip up your boshi in a weekend. For stockists and to find out more, go online at www.dmccreative.co.uk



HAVE YOU TRIED... KNOOKING?

This little-known craft is the perfect blend of knitting and crochet. It is worked with a crochet hook that has a hole at the opposite end and creates replica knitting stitches using crochet techniques. Thread a length of waste yarn through the hole, then use this to hold your stitches as you work. These knooking needles are from Addi. For stockists and to find out more, visit www.roosteryarns.com



For more crochet videos and tutorials, visit www.letsknit.co.uk



Cute homewares from Ana's new book, *Amigurumi At Home*, and toys from *Amigurumi Toy Box* (inset and below)

AMAZING AMIGURUMI

Amigurumi is the Japanese word for stuffed toy; these are usually crocheted and have a real cutesy look. Ana Paula Rimoli is the queen of adorable amigurumi projects.

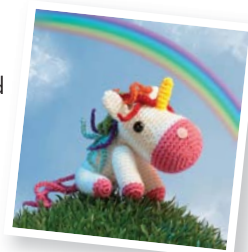
"I've always loved crocheting and made my first toy when I was pregnant with my first daughter, Oli, who's now 11. When you crochet with a smaller hook than the yarn calls for you get a tight, sturdy fabric that's perfect for toys. Toys are an ideal first project because they're easy and relatively fast to finish, and you can use up any leftover yarn.

I always make my toys with

kids in mind and think of how they play with them. I used to give eyes to everything, until I noticed that Martina (my now seven year-old) would put stuffed hammers or cups to bed with her dolls.

As dumb as this is going to sound, I'm happy with a face when it reminds me of my dog Santiago. He has this sweet, sleepy face that I love in toys. I just keep trying until they 'speak' to me. Just go with what you feel when they're looking at you!"

See more of Ana's creations on her blog amigurumi.patterns.blogspot.co.uk



Get Ana's new book *Amigurumi At Home* (£16.99, Martingale) for just £12.99 with free UK p&p from www.roundhousegroup.co.uk/shop/amigurumioffer or call 01273 603717. The other patterns shown here are from *Amigurumi Toy Box* (£16.99, Martingale), www.amazon.co.uk



COMPETITION CORNER

This issue we've got two fabulous crochet giveaways!

Toft Alpaca is offering six lucky readers a place on one of its Crochet and Cake Crafternoons. You'll make an amigurumi-style keyring and get to meet the alpacas. www.thetoftalpacashop.co.uk

DK is giving away six copies of *Crochet: the Complete Step by Step Guide* (£25, DK). This bumper collection features all the techniques you'll need to develop into an experienced crocheter! www.dk.co.uk



TURN TO
PAGE 82 FOR
YOUR CHANCE
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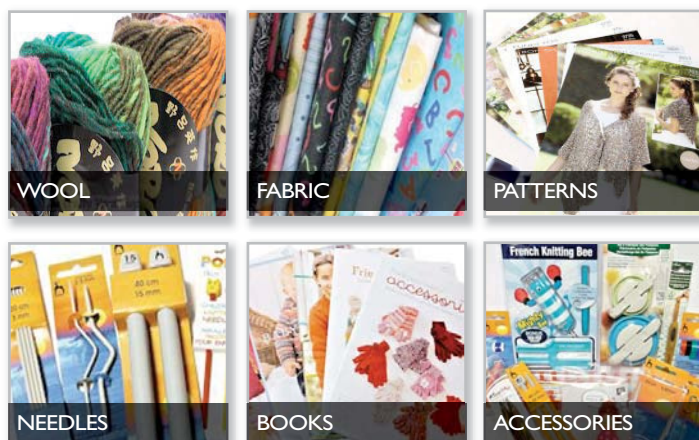
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EXCLUSIVE TO

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Daisy Chain

*Learn crochet colourwork
with Helen Ardley's
summery shoulder bag*

We just adore these bold flower motifs, crocheted in rich jewel-like colours. This bag is worked in a simple double crochet pattern, so it's the perfect opportunity to try your hand at a new technique. As in intarsia knitting, you will need separate bobbins of yarn for each colour section. Read our crochet clever panel (overleaf) for how to change colour in the middle of a row.

Learn
intarsia
crochet!



meet our
DESIGNER

Cotton yarn is a great choice for crocheted bags as it is strong and will keep its shape.

HELEN ARDLEY

Measurements & sizes

28cm x 28cm
(excluding handles)

Crochet Kit

Yarn: Paton 100% Cotton DK, (A) shade 2692 Cream, two 100g balls, (B) shade 2723 Nectarine, (C) shade 2726 Jade, one 100g ball of each

Hook: 3.5mm, 4mm

Lining fabric: 40cm x 70cm

Tension Square

20 sts x 25 rows
10cm x 10cm
double crochet
4mm hook

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Patons 100% Cotton DK is pure cotton yarn that has undergone a process called mercerisation. This makes it super strong and gives it a lovely sheen.

Need an Alternative?

For a softer look, try Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK. It's also 100% cotton but has a matte finish. Choose from 16 summery shades.

Let's Shop

Patons 100% Cotton DK costs £4.80 per 100g (210m) ball from 0845 576 0007, www.loveknitting.com

10% OFF! To get 10% off all orders at loveknitting.com, turn to page 25

Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK costs £4.10 per 100g (184m) ball from 0117 300 5211, www.getknitted.com

Start knitting here

BACK

Using 4mm hook and yarn A, make 55ch
□ Foundation row: 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end. 54 sts
□ Row 1: 1ch, 1dc in each dc to end, turn
□ Rows 2-88: as Row 1
□ Fasten off

FRONT

Using 4mm hook and yarn A, make 55ch
□ Foundation row: 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end. 54 sts
□ Starting at Row 1 and reading RS rows from right to left and WS rows from left to right, work Chart in dc until Row 88 is complete
□ Fasten off

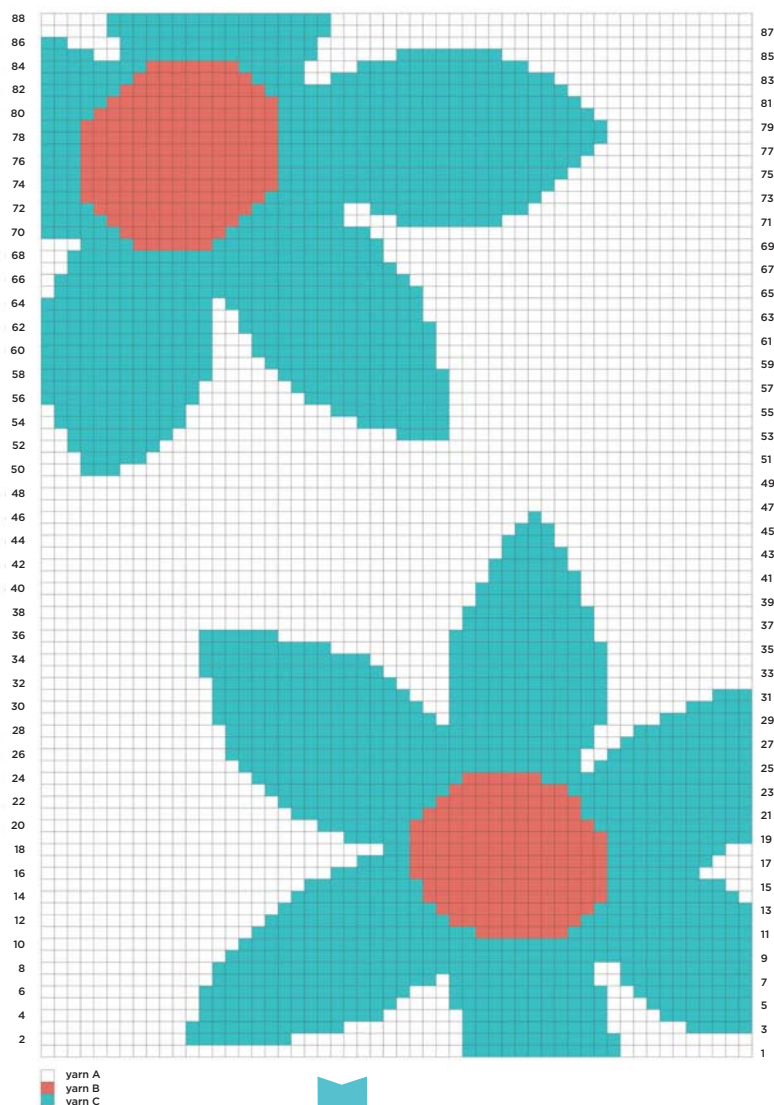
SIDES AND BASE

Using 4mm hook and yarn B, make 11ch

□ Foundation row: 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end, turn. Ten sts
□ Row 1: 1ch, 1dc in each dc to end, turn
Change to yarn C
□ Rep Row 1 twice more
Change to yarn B
□ Rep Row 1 twice more
□ Cont in two-row stripe sequence as set until work reaches down one side, across bottom edge and up other side of Back, approx 106cm
□ Fasten off

HANDLES (make two)

Using 3.5mm hook and yarn A, make 101ch
□ Foundation row: 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end. 100 sts
□ Row 1: 1ch, 1dc in each dc to end, turn
□ Rep last row three more times





Dress £45 The Collection at Debenhams, bracelet from a selection at Debenhams

To make up

Weave in ends. Using mattress stitch, sew sides and base to Front and Back of bag

EDGING

Rejoin yarn A to top edge of bag, using 3.5mm hook, work as follows:

- Row 1: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, turn
 - Rep Row 1 twice more
 - Fasten off
- Sew handles into place

LINING

Cut two pieces of fabric slightly larger than Front of bag. With right sides together, sew sides and bottom seam. Turn over a 1cm hem along top edge and sew in place on the wrong side. Place Lining inside bag and slip stitch to bag, just above start of Edging **LK**

"If you've never tried intarsia crochet before, work a practice swatch before you begin to get used to juggling several bobbins of yarn"

LK Deputy Editor
Adrienne Chandler

crochet clever

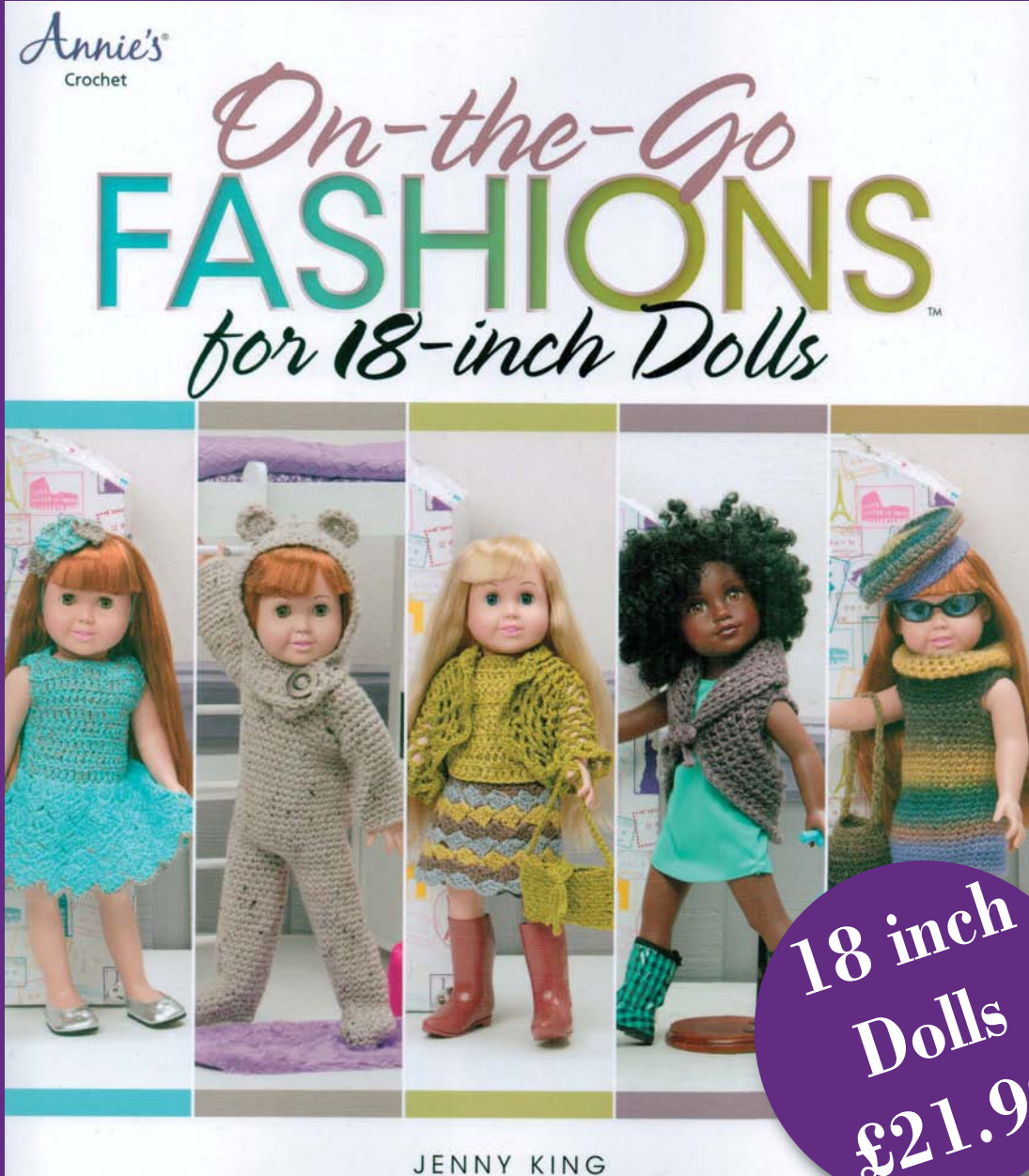
Hooked on Intarsia

This project uses the intarsia technique, which is well suited to working blocks of colour like this one. Small bobbins of yarn are used for each colour section across the row. When it comes to joining in the new shade, work to the last step of the previous stitch using your old shade, then use the new colour to complete the stitch. For example, in this pattern it will be a double crochet stitch. Using the old colour, insert the hook into the stitch before the colour change, wrap the yarn around the hook and pull through a loop. You will have two stitches on your hook. Now, using the new shade, wrap the yarn around the hook and pull through both loops to complete the stitch. Leave the old colour on the WS of the work until you are ready to use it on the following row. When changing colour on a WS row, the yarn will naturally be hanging on the RS so you will need to move it to the WS before introducing the new colour.



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High Society

*Stand out from the crowd
in these brilliant socks
from Lynne Rowe*

Over-the-knee socks are sure to get you noticed, and wait until you announce that you made them yourself! Featuring a lacy herringbone effect and a dainty cabled twist down the back of the leg, these are an elegant variation on this popular accessory. If you're after a smaller and quicker project, there is also an ankle-length version.



meet our
DESIGNER

"Add some fun to your summer wardrobe with these pretty, lacy socks. The short pair would look great with pumps or ballet flats whilst the long pair are perfect for festivals with boots or wellingtons"

LYNNE ROWE

*"See my Knit School tutorial
on page 75 for guidance on
using double-pointed needles
and other methods of
working in the round"*

LK Deputy Editor **Adrienne Chandler**

Measurements & sizes

Size: Ladies' feet

Small (average, large)

Height from base of heel:

Knee socks (cm):

59 (59, 61.5)

Ankle socks (cm):

16 (16, 18.5)

Knit Kit

Yarn: Regia 4ply, Knee socks: shade 2020 Violet, 3 (4, 4) 50g balls, Ankle socks: shade 1976 Rosa, two 50g balls

Needles: 2.5mm double-pointed (set of five), 2.75mm straight, one for casting on

Cable needle

Stitch marker

Ribbon: elasticated satin, 1m x 6mm

Buttons: small, two per pair of socks

Sewing needle and thread

Tension Square

36 sts x 48 rows

10cm x 10cm

stocking stitch

2.5mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Regia 4ply is a classic sock yarn that blends 75% wool with 25% polyamide. The polyamide adds strength to make your socks more hard-wearing.

Need an Alternative?



Why not choose a British option? West Yorkshire Spinners Signature 4ply

comprises 75% British wool and 25% nylon, and is made right here in the UK.

Let's Shop

Regia 4ply costs £4.49 per 50g (210m) ball from 01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com



West Yorkshire Spinners Signature 4ply costs £7.20 per 100g (400m)

ball. For stockists, contact 01535 664500, www.wyspinners.com

CENTRE PANEL

NOTE: worked over 30 sts

- ☐ Rnd 1: k2, * k2tog, yfwd, k1, yfwd, skpo, k2, rep from * three times more
 - ☐ Rnd 2: k
 - ☐ Rnd 3: k1, * k2tog, yfwd, k3, yfwd, skpo, rep from * three times more, k1
 - ☐ Rnd 4: k
- Rnds 1-4 set Centre panel

Start knitting here

KNEE SOCKS

Using 2.75mm straight needle, cast on 88 (92, 96) sts, transfer sts to four 2.5mm dpns and join in the rnd, pm at beg of rnd

- ☐ Rnd 1: * k2, p2, rep from * to end This rnd sets 2x2 rib
- ☐ Work seven more rnds in 2x2 rib
- ☐ Next rnd (eyelet rnd): * k2, yrn, p2tog, rep from * to end
- ☐ Work two more rnds in 2x2 rib

LEG SHAPING

- ☐ Rnd 1: k4, p16, pm, k11 (13, 15), pm, work Rnd 1 of Centre panel over next 30 sts, pm, k11 (13, 15), pm, p to end

NOTE: slip markers throughout

- ☐ Rnd 2: k4, p to first marker, k to second marker, work next rnd of Centre panel to third marker, k to fourth marker, p to end
- ☐ Rnds 3-4: as Rnd 2, working appropriate rnd of Centre panel
- ☐ Rnd 5: C4B, p to first marker, k to second marker, work Rnd 1 of Centre panel to third marker, k to fourth marker, p to end
- ☐ Rnd 6: k4, p to two sts before first marker, p2tog, k to second marker, work Rnd 2 of Centre panel to third marker, k to fourth marker, p2tog, p to end. 86 (90, 94) sts
- ☐ Rnds 7-10: as Rnd 2, working appropriate rnd of Centre panel
- ☐ Rnd 11: C4B, p to first marker, k to second marker, work Rnd 3 of Centre panel to third marker, k to fourth marker, p to end
- ☐ Rnd 12: k4, p to two sts before first marker, p2tog, k to second marker, work Rnd 4 of Centre panel to third marker, k to fourth marker, p2tog, p to end. 84 (88, 92) sts
- ☐ Rep Rnds 1-12 once more. 80 (84, 88) sts

MAIN LEG SECTION

- ☐ Rnd 1: k4, p to first marker, k to



second marker, work Rnd 1 of Centre panel to third marker, k to fourth marker, p to end

- ☐ Rnds 2-4: as Rnd 1, working appropriate rnd of Centre panel
- ☐ Rnd 5: C4B, p to first marker, k to second marker, work Rnd 1 of Centre panel to third marker, k to fourth marker, p to end
- ☐ Rnds 6-10: as Rnd 1, working appropriate rnd of Centre panel
- ☐ Rnd 11: C4B, p to first marker, k to second marker, work Rnd 3 of Centre panel to third marker, k to fourth marker, p to end
- ☐ Rnd 12: as Rnd 1, working appropriate rnd of Centre panel
- ☐ Rep last 12 rnds 6 (6, 7) times more

NOTE: for a slightly longer leg, work an extra rep of these 12

rnds, for first size, this will require an extra ball of yarn

CALF SHAPING

- ☐ Rep Rnds 1-12 of main leg section five times more, dec as set in leg shaping on Rnds 6 and 12. 60 (64, 68) sts

LOWER LEG

- ☐ Rep Rnds 1-12 of main leg section four times more, then rep Rnds 1-10 once more Remove markers

HEEL FLAP

NOTE: heel flap will be worked on 30 (32, 34) centre back sts, rem 30 (32, 34) sts form instep

- ☐ Next row: C4B, p2, k11 (12, 13), turn

knitwise

Pattern perfect

It's really important to use the right decrease to create the herringbone lace pattern. A k2tog increase leans to the right and a skpo will lean to the left. By combining these decrease stitches with yarn forward increases, you'll create perfectly arranged eyelets.

- Row 8: sl 1 kwise, k11, ssk, k1, turn
- Row 9: sl 1 pwise, p12, p2tog, p1, turn
- Row 10: sl 1 kwise, k13, ssk, k1, turn
- Row 11: sl 1 pwise, p14, p2tog, p1, turn
- Row 12: sl 1 kwise, k15, ssk, k0 (1, 1), turn. 17 (18, 18) sts

SECOND AND THIRD SIZES ONLY

- Row 13: sl 1 pwise, p16, p2tog, p- (0, 1), turn
- Row 14: sl 1 kwise, k- (16, 17), ssk, k- (0, 1). 17 (18, 20) sts

ALL SIZES

Pm to indicate new start of rnd

GUSSET

NOTE: after picking up sts, k into back of picked up st to twist the st and prevent a hole

- Pick up and k 16 (17, 18) sts along edge of heel flap, pm, k0 (1, 2), work Rnd 3 of Centre panel over next 30 sts, k0 (1, 2), pm, pick up and k 16 (17, 18) sts along other edge of heel flap, k 17 (18, 20) heel sts. 79 (84, 90) sts
- Next rnd: k to two sts before first marker, k2tog, k0 (1, 2), work Rnd 4 of Centre panel, k to second marker, ssk, k to end. 77 (82, 88) sts

GUSSET SHAPING

- Rnd 1: k to first marker, k0 (1, 2), work next rnd of Centre panel, k to end
- Rnd 2: k to two sts before first marker, k2tog, k0 (1, 2), work next rnd of Centre panel, k to second marker, ssk, k to end. 75 (80, 86) sts

Work back and forth in rows as folls:

- Row 1: sl 1 pwise, p29 (31, 33), turn
- Row 2: sl 1 kwise, k29 (31, 33), turn
- Rep last two rows a further 13 (14, 15) times

HEEL SHAPING

- Row 1: sl 1 pwise, p16 (17, 18), p2tog, p1, turn
- Row 2: sl 1 kwise, k5, ssk, k1, turn
- Row 3: sl 1 pwise, p6, p2tog, p1, turn
- Row 4: sl 1 kwise, k7, ssk, k1, turn
- Row 5: sl 1 pwise, p8, p2tog, p1, turn
- Row 6: sl 1 kwise, k9, ssk, k1, turn
- Row 7: sl 1 pwise, p10, p2tog, p1, turn

T-shirt, £12.90, Uniqlo, shorts, £26, Red Herring at Debenhams, shoes, £22, Next, bracelets from a selection at Debenhams



coming next issue

MONICA RUSSEL'S CUTE CABLED ACCESSORIES

September issue of Let's Knit on sale Friday 1st August

- Rep last two rnds until 61 (64, 68) sts rem

NOTE: first and third sizes will end after a Rnd 4 of Centre panel, second size will end after a Rnd 2

FOOT

- Rnd 1: k to first marker, k0 (1, 2), work Rnd 1 (3, 1) of Centre panel, k to end
- Rnd 2: k
- Rnd 3: k to first marker, k0 (1, 2), work Rnd 3 (1, 3) of Centre panel, k to end
- Rnd 4: k
- Rep Rnds 1-4 until foot meas 17.5 (18.5, 19.5) cm, or 4.5cm shorter than desired length, ending after a Rnd 2 or Rnd 4 **AT THE SAME TIME** working last rnd as folls for first size only:

FIRST SIZE ONLY

- Last rnd: patt to last two sts, k2tog. 60 (-, -) sts

ALL SIZES

Work toe over rem 60 (64, 68) sts as folls:

TOE

- Next rnd: k to first marker
- NOTE: this is now new start of rnd, remove all markers except for first and second markers so there are 30 (32, 34) sts between each marker**



- Rnd 1: k1, ssk, k to three sts before next marker, k2tog, k1, sm, k1, ssk, k to last three sts before next marker, k2tog, k1, sm. 56 (60, 64) sts
- Rnd 2: k
- Rep last two rnds nine times more. 20 (24, 28) sts
- Distribute sts evenly over two dpns, then graft toe using Kitchener stitch (see p94)
- Make second sock to match, replacing C4B with C4F throughout
- Thread elastic ribbon through eyelet holes, tie in a bow and add a small, pretty button to finish

ANKLE SOCKS

Using 2.75mm needle, cast on 60 (64, 68) sts, transfer sts to four 2.5mm dpns and join in the rnd, taking care not to twist sts, pm at beg of rnd

- Work eight rows in 2x2 rib
- Next rnd (eyelet rnd): * k2, yrn, p2tog, rep from * to end
- Work two more rnds in 2x2 rib

ANKLE

- Rnd 1: k4, p2, k11 (13, 15), pm, work Rnd 1 of Centre panel, k11 (13, 15), pm, p2
- Rnd 2: k4, p2, k to first marker, work next rnd of Centre panel, k to next marker, p2
- Rnds 3-4: as Rnd 2, working appropriate rnd of Centre panel
- Rnd 5: C4B, p2, k to first marker, work next rnd of Centre panel, k to next marker, p2
- Rnds 6-10: as Rnd 2, working appropriate rnd of Centre panel
- Rnd 11: C4B, p2, k to first marker, work Rnd 3 of Centre panel, k to next marker, p2
- Rnd 12: as Rnd 2, working appropriate rnd of Centre panel
- Rep last 12 rnds 1 (1, 2) times more, then rep Rnds 1-10 once more
- Work as for Knee sock from Heel flap to end
- Make second sock to match, replacing C4B with C4F throughout
- Thread elastic ribbon through eyelet holes, tie in a bow and add a small, pretty button to finish **LK**

LAVENDER BLOSSOM

Choose a yarn shade that conjures up a vision of the countryside



1



2



3

4

1 Sirdar Cotton DK - shade 512 Black Violet, costs £4.75 per 100g (212m) ball from **0845 003 0775**, www.wool4less.co.uk

2 Rowan Panama - shade 308 Jacaranda, costs £5.15 per 50g (135m) ball from **01925 764231**, www.blacksheepwools.com

3 Cashmered - shade Lilac, costs £12.95 per 25g (160m) ball from **01242 256797**, www.cashmered.net

4 Fyberspates Gleem Lace - shade 710 Lavender Haze, costs £14.95 per 100g (800m) from **0845 576 0007**, www.loveknitting.com



Cable cardigan from Debbie Bliss Land Girl, £5.95, **01829 740903**, www.laughinghens.com



5



6



7



8

5 Debbie Bliss Party Angel - shade 15 Lilac/Gold costs £7.99 per 25g (200m) ball from **0800 505 3300**, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

6 Eden Cottage Yarns Milburn 4ply - shade Damson, costs £8 per 50g (200m) ball from **07961 263518**, www.edencottageyarns.co.uk

7 Louisa Harding Grace Harmonies - shade 07 Bebob, costs £9.95 per 50g (100m) ball from **01244 389310**, www.stashfineyarns.com

8 Manos Del Uruguay Manos Silk Blend - shade 9999 Andromeda, costs £9.49 per 50g (135m) ball from **0800 488 0708**, www.deramores.com



1

2

FASHION accent

HAVE A PURPLE PARTY

1 Cotton table runner, £20, **0845 331 1277**, www.ochreandochre.com

2 littala Maribowl, £49, **07780 693034**, www.cloudberryliving.co.uk

3 Alice in Wonderland White Rabbit mug, £10, **0800 015 4395**, www.whittard.co.uk

4 Polka dot paper straws, £2.99, **0845 680 2975**, www.gingerraay.co.uk

5 Cotton bunting, £13.50, **01245 363310**, www.cottonbunting.co.uk



3

4

5



Part 7: Knitting in the round

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HiyaHiya



LK deputy editor **Adrienne Chandler** shows you how to use double-pointed and circular needles

Many of you will have learnt to knit on straight needles, which creates flat pieces of work which are then assembled into your project. Knitting in the round creates a tube of knitting with no seams and is worked on double-pointed or circular needles.

DOUBLE-POINTED NEEDLES

These are known as dpns and are sets of shorter needles with a point on each end. They are ideal for projects with a small circumference, like

hats, gloves or socks. They come in varying lengths, usually ranging from 10cm to 20cm, and in sets of four or five.



CASTING ON

Cast your stitches on to one needle as normal, then transfer the stitches on to three or four dpns, as instructed in your pattern. If it doesn't specify, distribute the stitches as evenly as possible.



HOLDING THE NEEDLES

Although your stitches will be spread over three or four needles, you only need to hold two at a time. Leave the others hanging, remembering to keep your stitches positioned in the middle of each needle to prevent them slipping off.



WORKING IN THE ROUND

Once your round has been joined, you are now ready to start knitting. The working yarn should be coming from the end of your RH needle. Place a stitch marker in between the last two stitches on your RH needle to indicate the end of the round.



JOINING IN THE ROUND

It is important to join the round before you begin knitting, or you will end up with a hole. There are two common ways of doing this: swapping the stitches, or decreasing. Before

you do either of these, lay your needles on a flat surface and make sure that none of the stitches are twisted. If they are twisted when you join in the round, you will get a twist in your knitting that you won't be able to undo.

Using an empty dpn as your RH needle, knit the stitches on your LH needle



When all the stitches have been knitted, your LH needle will be empty. Hold the next needle on your left in your left hand, and use the new empty needle as your RH needle. Keep working in this way, slipping the marker at the end of each round.



You do not have to turn your work, every round will have the right side facing.

Swapping the stitches

Step 1: Hold the needles so the first cast-on stitch is on your right-hand (RH) needle and the last cast-on stitch is on your left-hand (LH) needle. Insert your LH needle into the first cast-on stitch and lift it off the RH needle. Leave it on the LH needle.



Step 2: Insert your RH needle into the last cast-on stitch, which is now the second stitch on your LH needle. Lift this stitch off the LH needle and leave it on the RH needle.



Knitting two together

Step 1: cast on the instructed number of stitches plus one. Hold the needles so the first cast-on stitch is on your LH needle and the last cast-on stitch is on



your RH needle. Slip the last cast-on stitch on to your LH needle. **Step 2:** knit the last cast-on stitch together with the first cast-on stitch.



CIRCULAR NEEDLES

For projects with a larger circumference, you can use circular needles. These look like two straight needles that are joined with a cord. They most commonly come in 40cm, 60cm, 80cm and 100cm lengths. Choose a circular needle that is shorter than the circumference of your project.

CASTING ON

Cast all your stitches on to one needle tip and spread them out until they fill the full length of the needle. They should reach to the end of the other needle tip.



JOINING IN THE ROUND

Hold a needle tip in each hand and treat these as your LH and RH needles. Join in the round using one of the methods given on the previous page.



WORKING IN THE ROUND

The working yarn from the ball should be coming from your RH needle tip. Place a marker to indicate the beginning of the round, and start knitting as normal.



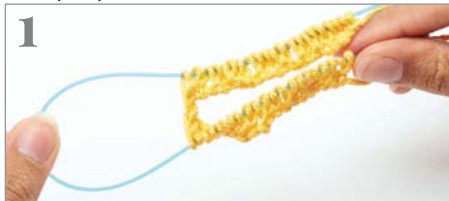
When you reach the end of the round, just slip the marker and continue working in the same direction for your next round. You do not have to turn your work, every round will have the right side facing.



MAGIC LOOP

It is possible to use a long circular needle to knit projects with a small circumference. This is known as the magic loop method and was made popular by Bev Galeskas and Sarah Hauschka. It's ideal for those of you who find dpns tricky to manage. You will need a circular needle that is at least 100cm long and has a flexible cord.

Step 1: Cast on your stitches as normal, then find the centre point of the cast-on row and pull through a loop of your cord. If you have an odd number of stitches, just divide them as evenly as you can.



Step 2: Slide both sets of stitches up to the tips of the needles, making sure the stitches are not twisted. The yarn should be coming from the right-hand side of the back needle.



Step 3: Keeping the stitches on the front needle in place, pull the back needle tip until you have enough slack in the cord to bring the

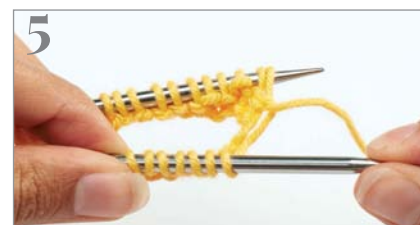
tip around and use it to knit with. There should still be a loop on the left-hand side between the two sets of stitches.



Step 4: Knit the stitches off the front needle, then turn your work, so the unworked stitches (on the cord) are at the front.



Step 5: slide the front stitches on to the front needle tip. You are now ready to knit the second set of stitches.



Repeat Steps 3-5 to complete the round. Each repeat of Steps 3-5 is half a round. Make sure you knit the first stitch tightly on each pass to avoid a ladder.

I-CORD

This is a very narrow tube that forms a cord; it is frequently used for ties, handles and trims. It is worked on two dpns.

Step 1: Cast on three stitches, then knit one row.

Step 2: Instead of turning your work as you normally would, slide the stitches to the other end of the needle. The yarn will be coming from the left-hand side.

Step 3: Pulling the yarn tightly across the back of the work, knit one row.

Repeat Steps 2-3 until your i-cord is the desired length, then cast off.



How working in the round affects your stitch pattern

When you are knitting in the round, you always have the right side of the work facing you. You never have to turn your work, which means you never have a wrong side row. This does have an impact when working stocking and garter stitch patterns. See our table to see the difference:

Stitch	When knitted in rows	When knitted in the round
Garter stitch	Knit every row	Knit one round, purl one round
Stocking stitch	Knit one row, purl one row	Knit every round



Knit School is sponsored by HiyaHiya needles. Find a range of double-pointed, circular and interchangeable needles, available in stainless steel or bamboo varieties. The needles used in this tutorial were HiyaHiya's bamboo double-pointed needles and Sharp stainless steel circular knitting needles in 40cm and 100cm lengths. Also featured were the brand's locking stitch markers. Visit www.hiyahiya-uk.com/retailers for stockists and further information.



EXCLUSIVE TO

Let's
knit

Silver Lining

Get ready for the change of season with Charmaine Fletcher's sparkly set

The British summer is notoriously unpredictable and you never know how long it will last.

Make sure you are prepared for the onset of autumn by knitting up this elegant ruffled scarf and mittens combo. It's made in a yarn that's adorned with sequins, so will catch the light and bring a smile. These mittens can be worn with the ruffle at the top or at the bottom.



meet our
DESIGNER

"To make sewing up easier, snip the sequins off, being careful not to cut the yarn or thread from which they are suspended"

CHARMAINE FLETCHER

Measurements & Sizes

Scarf

Top edge: **103cm**

Bottom edge: **193cm**

Height: **10cm**

Mittens

Circumference at base:

22cm

Height: **16cm**

Knit Kit

Yarn: James C. Brett Aria, shade Z5 Grey, one 50g ball for each project

Needles: Mittens: 3.25mm double-pointed, 3.75mm double-pointed, Scarf: 3.5mm (120cm) circular

Button: 10mm crystal effect (for Scarf)

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

24 sts x 32 rows

10cm x 10cm

stocking stitch

3.25mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

James C. Brett Aria comprises 68% acrylic, 10% polyester, 9% wool, 9% mohair and 4% payette. The latter is in the form of little sequins scattered throughout the yarn, while the mohair adds a subtle halo.

Need an Alternative?

If you don't fancy sequins, try Stylecraft Alpaca DK. It's a blend of 80% acrylic and 20% alpaca, and is wonderfully soft and snuggly. It can be machine washed.

Let's Shop

James C. Brett Aria DK costs £3.50 per 50g (215m) ball from 01729 822946, www.cottontailcrafts.co.uk

Stylecraft Alpaca DK costs £3.49 per 100g (240m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

Start knitting here

SCARF

NOTE: leave 4m of yarn for long-tail cast on, then make your slip knot

Using 3.5mm circular needles and the thumb method, cast on 388 sts. Do not join in the rnd, work back and forth in rows as follows:

☐ Row 1 (RS): sl 1 kwise, (p1, k1) to last st, p1

☐ Row 2: sl 1 pwise, p to last st, k1

☐ Row 3: sl 1 kwise, k to end

☐ Row 4: sl 1 pwise, p to end

☐ Rows 5-20: rep Rows 3-4 eight times more

☐ Row 21 (gatherers): sl 1 kwise, (ssk) to last st, k1. 195 sts

☐ Row 22 (button loop): cable cast on ten sts, do not turn, cast off ten sts kwise [one loop on RH needle], p to end. 196 sts

☐ Row 23: sl 1 kwise, k to last two sts, ssk. 195 sts

☐ Cast off kwise, leaving a long tail

To make up

Using yarn tail, sew button to end of Scarf between top and bottom purl rows on top border. Fold button loop to form a circle ensuring it is tight enough to hold button, then secure it on wrong side of neck border

MITTENS (make two)

Using 3.75mm dpns and thumb method, cast on 44 sts, join in the rnd taking care not to twist sts

☐ Rnds 1-2: k

Change to 3.25mm dpns

☐ Rnd 3 (picot): *yfwd, k2tog, rep from * to end

☐ Rnds 4-5: k

☐ Rnd 6: p

☐ Rnds 7-20: k

DIVIDE FOR THUMB

☐ Row 21: k to end, turn

☐ Row 22: p to end, turn

☐ Cont as set, working 17 more rows in st st

Rejoin in the rnd and cont as follows:

☐ Rnds 40-50: k

☐ Rnd 51: p

☐ Rnds 52-55: k

☐ Rnd 56: p

☐ Rnds 57-60: k

☐ Using 3.75mm dpns, loosely cast off kwise

RUFFLES

(make two for each mitten)

☐ Using 3.25mm needles, with RS facing and cast-off edge closest to you, pick up and k 44 sts just under p row nearest cast-off edge. Join in the rnd

Change to 3.75 mm dpns

☐ Rnd 1: k

☐ Rnd 2: (k1, kfb) to end. 66 sts

☐ Rnds 3-8: k

☐ Rnd 9: p

☐ Cast-off in (k1, p1) rib to stop ruffle curling and create a pretty border

☐ Work another ruffle below second p row of mitten

To make up

Weave in ends. Fold work at picot row and secure to inside of mitten, following direction of cast-on stitches. Fold down cast-off edge so edge of first ruffle becomes edge of mitten. Secure on the inside. Carefully block to measurements **LK**

Slip slip knit (ssk)

1 One at a time, slip the next two stitches on the left-hand needle knitwise onto the right-hand needle. Because you have slipped the sts, you have turned them and what were the back loops are now at the front.

2 Knit them together through the back loops; to do this, put the left-hand needle into the stitches in front of the right-hand needle, and knit the two together.





knitwise

Pretty picot

These mittens have a mock picot edge, which creates a decorative row of points. True picots involving casting on and casting off stitches in turn, but this method is a quick and easy alternative. Work two rounds of stocking stitch, then a round of eyelets. These are made up of yarn forwards and k2tog decreases. Continue in your stitch pattern as instructed. When you come to making up, fold your work at the eyelet row and sew the stocking stitch rows to the wrong side. The eyelets will then form pretty little points along the edge of your work.



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Measurements & Sizes

Mother's headband: 47cm long x 8cm wide

Daughter's headband: 35cm long x 4.5cm wide

Knit Kit

Yarn: James C. Brett Legacy DK, shade 05 Heather, two 50g balls

Needles: 4mm, double-pointed

Tension Square

22 sts x 28 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
4mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

James C. Brett Legacy DK is 100% superwash wool that can be machine washed and is available in a range of subtle and bold shades.

Need an Alternative?

Rico Essentials Merino DK is an extra fine superwash yarn made of 100% wool. It's easy to knit with and results in very even knitting.

Let's Shop

James C. Brett Legacy DK costs £2.79 per 50g (128m) ball from 01925 764231, www.blacksheepwools.com

Rico Essentials Merino DK costs £3.69 per 50g (120m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

Mother's Love

This mother-and-daughter headband set by Jane Burns will be a family favourite.

Here's LK Editor Sarah and her daughter Katie demonstrating how these turban-style headbands are designed to suit all ages!

The heather shade is a subtle summer tone; if purple is your thing, take a look at this month's Colour Therapy (page 74) for lots more lavender shades.

Start knitting here

MOTHER

Using two 4mm dpns, cast on 25 sts. Do not join in the rnd, work back and forth in rows

- ☐ Row 1: sl 1, (k3, p1) to end
- ☐ Row 2: sl 1, k1, p1, (k3, p1) to last two sts, k2
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-2 until piece meas 20cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row, pm

FIRST STRAND

- ☐ Row 1: sl 1, (k3, p1) three times, turn and work on these 13 sts only
 - ☐ Row 2: sl 1, k1, p1, (k3, p1) twice, k2
 - ☐ Rep Rows 1-2 until first strand meas 7cm from marker, ending after a WS row
- Cut yarn and leave these sts on dpn

SECOND STRAND

Using an empty 4mm dpn and with RS facing rejoin yarn to rem headband sts and cast on one st

- ☐ Row 1: sl 1, (k3, p1) three times, turn
- ☐ Row 2: sl 1, k1, p1, (k3, p1) twice, k2
- ☐ Row 3: sl 1, (k3, p1) three times
- ☐ Rep Rows 2-3 until piece meas 7cm from marker, ending after a WS row

JOINING ROW

- ☐ Cross First strand over top of Second strand, keeping sts in their new order slip all 26 sts on to one dpn
- ☐ Row 1: sl 1, (k3, p1) twice, k3, p2tog, (k3, p1) three times. 25 sts
- ☐ Row 2: sl 1, k1, p1, (k3, p1) to last two sts, k2

- ☐ Row 3: sl 1, (k3, p1) to end
- ☐ Rep Rows 2-3 until piece meas 50cm (or desired head circumference)
- ☐ Cast off

CHILD

Using 4mm needles, cast on 17 sts

- ☐ Row 1: sl 1, (k3, p1) to end
- ☐ Row 2: sl 1, k1, p1, (k3, p1) to last two sts, k2
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-2 until piece meas 14cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row, pm

FIRST STRAND

- ☐ Row 1: sl 1, (k3, p1) twice, turn and work on these nine sts only
- ☐ Row 2: sl 1 k1, p1, k3, p1, k2
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-2 until First strand meas 7cm from marker, ending



EXCLUSIVE TO
**Let's
Knit**

*"If you've already taught
your daughter to knit,
why not knit these
together?"*

LK Editorial Assistant **Katie Wilding**



knitwise

Measuring up!

When a pattern asks you to knit to a specific length, it's important that you measure your work correctly. The main rule to remember is to measure straight up your work and to not follow the edges as they could well be shaped and won't give you the true measurement. Remember to be consistent too, decide on whether to measure from the cast-on edge to above, or below your needle and stick to it! Measuring below your needle will give you a little extra breathing space, if you feel you might need it.

after a WS row
Cut yarn and leave these sts on dpn

SECOND STRAND

Using an empty 4mm dpn and with RS facing rejoin yarn to rem headband sts and cast on one st
□ Row 1: sl 1, (k3, p1) twice, turn. Nine sts
□ Row 2: sl 1, k1, p1, k3, p1, k2
□ Row 3: sl 1, (k3, p1) twice
□ Rep Rows 2-3 until piece meas 7cm from marker, ending after a WS row

JOINING ROW

□ Cross First strand over top of Second strand, keeping sts in their new order, slip all 18 sts on to one dpn

□ Row 1: sl 1, k3, p1, k3, p2tog, (k3, p1) twice. 17 sts
□ Row 2: sl 1, k1, p1, (k3, p1) to last two sts, k2
□ Row 3: sl 1, (k3, p1) to end
□ Rep Rows 2-3 until piece meas 35cm (or desired

head circumference)

□ Cast off

To make up

On each headband, join cast-off and cast-on edges **LK**

**coming
next issue**

JANE BURNS' QUIRKY
KNITTED CLOCK

September issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 1st August



LOLLY CUSHION KIT

From Siân Brown's brand new Make at Home range, this tasty-looking kit includes the pattern to make an ice lolly cushion, along with cotton DK yarn and spotty buttons, all in a cotton tote bag. The jolly cushion is striped on the back and has a contrasting button band. See all of Siân's kits at www.makeathome.co.uk.

☒ Siân Brown

3
to win!



EARN YOUR STRIPES

You know us, we love all things nautical and we crave a good boating holiday! The Woolhouse is giving away this nautical-inspired Bergere de France sweater pattern, along with enough Coton Fifty yarn to make it in any size - that's over £45 worth of yarn! To see what else The Woolhouse have on offer, go to www.the-woolhouse.co.uk.

☒ Bergere

2
to win!



PURE AND SIMPLE

Our friends at Black Sheep Wools are giving one lucky reader this Rowan Pure Linen pattern book, full of beautiful light-weight summer garments, along with eight balls of Rowan Pure Linen yarn.

www.blacksheepwools.com,
www.knitrowan.com

☒ Rowan

Let's
knit

GIVEAWAYS

LOOK AT THESE INCREDIBLE PRIZES WORTH ALMOST £1000!

COMPLETELY CROCHET

If there is ever anything you want to know about crochet, you'll find it in this huge handbook! Dorling Kindersley are giving six crochet-keen readers a copy of Crochet: The complete step-by-step guide, full of tools, techniques and over 80 projects and worth £25 each. Have a read of our Hooked on Crochet feature on page 61 for loads of reasons to get started! For all of their books, go to www.dk.co.uk.

☒ Dorling Kindersley

6
to win!



BESIDE THE SEASIDE

These sets from The Little Knit Kit Company get us in the mood for a trip to the beach! We're giving away three ice cream kits and two seaside cottage kits, each worth over £15. They would be the perfect project to take away on holiday with you! For all their makes, go to www.thelittleknitkitcompany.co.uk.

☒ Seaside

5
kits to win!



GIVEAWAY FORM

To enter our giveaways, just tick the box (or boxes) corresponding with the prize you want to win and send your entry to us, to arrive no later than 08/08/14. Mark your envelope: **Let's Knit, August Giveaways, PO Box 443, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 8WG**

☐ Rowan ☐ Seaside ☐ Bergere ☐ Dorling Kindersley ☐ Siân Brown

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We have even more fantastic prizes to be won! These giveaways can only be entered online at www.letsknit.co.uk.

• Six places on a Crochet and Cake Crafternoon, Toft Alpaca Shop, Warwickshire, 21st August.
www.thetoftalpacashop.co.uk

• Ten pairs of tickets to Weald of Kent Craft & Design Show, Tonbridge, 5th-7th September. www.thecraftshows.co.uk

• Ten pairs of tickets to British Wool Weekend, Harrogate, 6th-7th September.
www.britishwool.net

Under Cover

*This chunky poncho from
Bergere de France is the perfect
choice for beginners*

When the evenings start to turn chilly, you hunt around for something that's easy to wear and will keep you snug – this sparkly poncho is just the thing.

It's really simple to make as it's worked from side to side, and alternates basic knit and purl stitches to create a subtle texture. It's a great first garment for new knitters as the only shaping is at the neck edge.

Super easy
knit for
autumn

Measurements & Sizes

Size (approx):

S-M (L-XL)

Actual chest (cm):
140 (156)

Length when flat (cm):
58 (61)

Length when worn (cm):
73 (76)

NOTE: poncho stretches when worn

Knit Kit

Yarn: **Bergere de France Galaxie**, shade 299.581 Sangria, 24 (30) 50g balls

Needles: 6mm

Tension Square

13.5 sts x 18 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
6mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Bergere de France Galaxie is a super chunky yarn that blends 80% acrylic and 18% wool, with 2% sparkly polyester thread. It comes in 12 shades and can be machine washed and tumble dried. The ball band gives a tension of 11 stitches x 13 rows on 8mm needles.

Let's Shop

Bergere de France Galaxie costs £3.60 per 50g (35m) ball from 0845 838 3762, www.intoknit.co.uk

Start knitting here

BACK

NOTE: garment is worked from side-to-side. Take all measurements with garment laid out flat

Using 6mm needles, cast on 79 (83) sts

□ Row 1 (RS): p1, k1, * p3, k1, rep from * to last st, p1

□ Row 2: k3, * p1, k3, rep from * to end

These two rows set patt

□ Cont in patt until work meas 23

(26.5) cm, ending after a WS row
Left shoulder is now complete

SHAPE NECK

□ Cast off one st at right-hand edge on next and two foll alt rows. 76 (80) sts

□ Work 33 (35) rows in patt without shaping

□ Cast on one st at right-hand edge on next three alt rows. 79 (83) sts

Neck edge is now complete

RIGHT SHOULDER

□ Cont in patt until work meas 70 (78) cm, ending after a WS row

□ Cast off

LEFT FRONT

Using 6mm needles, cast on 79 (83) sts

□ Work in patt as for Back until front meas 23 (26.5) cm, ending after a WS row

Shoulder is now complete

SHAPE NECK

□ Cast off seven sts at right-hand

edge, then two sts at same edge on foll alt row, then one st at same edge on foll three alt rows.

67 (71) sts

□ Work nine rows in patt without shaping

□ Cast off

RIGHT FRONT

NOTE: start at front opening edge

Using 6mm needles, cast on 67 (71) sts

□ Work ten rows in patt as for Back

□ Cast on one st at right-hand edge on next and two foll alt rows, then two sts at same edge on next alt row, then seven sts at same edge on foll alt row. 79 (83) sts

Neck edge is now complete

RIGHT SHOULDER

□ Cont in patt without shaping until work meas 33 (36.5) cm, ending after a WS row

□ Cast off

COLLAR

Using 6mm needles, cast on 91 (95) sts

□ Work in patt as for Back until work meas 33.5cm, ending after a RS row

□ Cast off

To make up

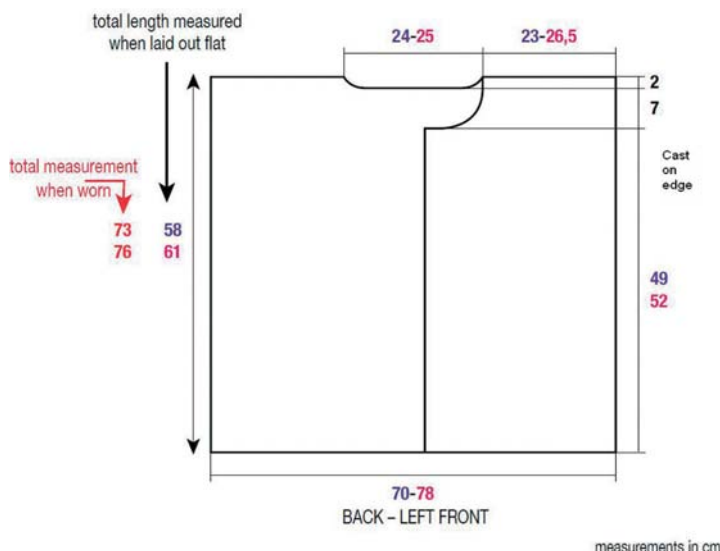
Stitch shoulder seams. Join Collar seam. Sew Collar to neck edge.

Weave in all ends **LK**



"The collar is knitted separately and sewn on at the end, but would also make a cosy accessory in its own right!"

LK Deputy Editor **Adrienne Chandler**



knitwise

Casting call

To shape the neck you are required to cast on and cast off. Casting off is done in the usual way, but to cast on during shaping we recommend the cable cast-on technique. To do this, insert your right-hand needle between the first and second stitches on your left-hand needle. Wrap the yarn around the needle as if to knit and pull through the loop. Place this loop on to the end of your left-hand needle. One stitch has been cast on. If you need to cast on additional stitches, do the same thing, counting the recently placed loop as the first stitch on the left-hand needle.

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Measurements & Sizes

Width: 163cm

Depth at centre: 28cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Louisa Harding Amitola, shade 103 Berries, two 50g balls

Needles: 4.5mm circular

Stitch markers: two

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

After blocking
25 sts x 44 rows
10cm x 10cm
garter stitch
4.5mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Louisa Harding Amitola is a gorgeous 4ply yarn which blends 80% wool with 20% silk. The unusual variegated colourways make for simply stunning knits.

Need an Alternative?



For a solid shade, try West Yorkshire Spinners Signature 4ply, which uses British wool and comes in 11 different colours.

Let's Shop

Louisa Harding Amitola costs £6.95 per 50g (250m) ball from 01244 389310, www.stashfineyarns.com



West Yorkshire Spinners Signature 4ply has an RRP of £7.20 per 100g (400m) ball. Contact 01535 664500, www.wyspinners.com for stockists

Blackcurrant Swirl

Sharpen your lace skills with this beautiful wrap by Jan Henley

We can't get enough of Jan's sumptuous lace wrap, which uses garter stitch and a Godmother's lace border to create a simple but stunning pattern.

Teamed with the ice cream swirl-effect of Louisa Harding's Amitola yarn, it makes for a delectable and versatile late-summer knit.

Start knitting here

SHAWLETTE

Using 4.5mm circular needle and thumb method, cast on 20 sts, do not join in the rnd but work back and forth in rows

- ☐ Row 1: sl 1 kwise, k3, (yfwd, k2tog) seven times, yfwd, k2. 21 sts
- ☐ Rows 2 and all even-numbered rows: k
- ☐ Row 3: sl 1 kwise, k6, (yfwd, k2tog) six times, yfwd, k2. 22 sts
- ☐ Row 5: sl 1 kwise, k9, (yfwd, k2tog) five times, yfwd, k2. 23 sts
- ☐ Row 7: sl 1 kwise, k12, (yfwd, k2tog) four times, yfwd, k2. 24 sts
- ☐ Row 9: sl 1 kwise, k23
- ☐ Row 10: cast off four sts using stretchy cast off (see Knitwise), k19. 20 sts

These ten rows form edging

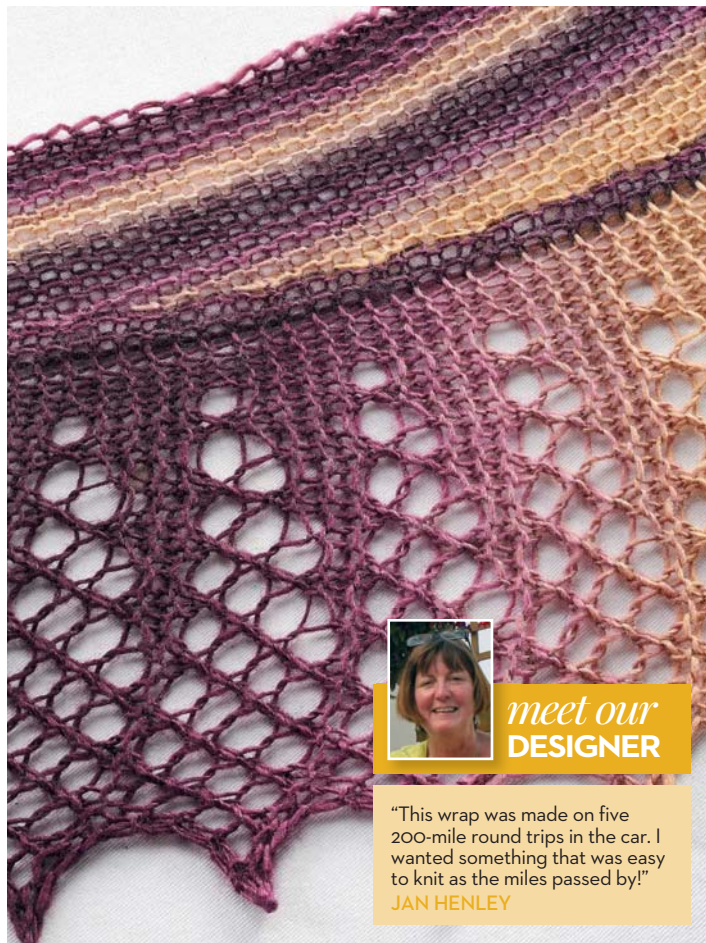
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-10 41 times more, then work Rows 1-9 once
- ☐ Cast off 23 sts using stretchy cast off (see Knitwise) until one st rem on RH needle, do not fasten off but without turning, pick up and k 216 sts along top edge of Border. 217 sts
- ☐ K three rows

☐ Row 2: sl 1, k8, turn

- ☐ Row 3: sl 1, k7, ssk, k3, turn
- ☐ Row 4: sl 1, k10, ssk, k3, turn
- ☐ Row 5: sl 1, k13, ssk, k3, turn
- ☐ Cont shaping work as set (inc number of sts in first k section by three on each row) until all your spare sts have been used up. 165 sts
- ☐ Cast off all sts using stretchy cast off (see Knitwise)

MAIN BODY SHAPING

- ☐ Row 1: sl 1, k112, turn



meet our
DESIGNER

"This wrap was made on five 200-mile round trips in the car. I wanted something that was easy to knit as the miles passed by!"

JAN HENLEY

knitwise

Castaway

With such a pretty lace pattern, you want a good stretchy cast off technique to keep the shawl's shape, and stretch when blocking. For Blackcurrant Swirl, work the cast off as follows:

- ☐ Knit two stitches from the left-hand needle, * insert left-hand needle from front to back into both stitches, knit them together through the back loops and slip off the needle. One stitch remains on your right-hand needle
- ☐ Knit next stitch from left-hand needle, then repeat from * until the required number of stitches have been cast off.

EXCLUSIVE TO

Let's
Knit

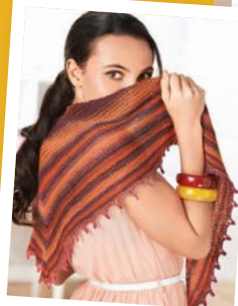
"When picking up stitches, you should find that it is possible to pick up a stitch neatly between each garter stitch 'bump'"

LK Editorial Assistant **Amy Adams**

**coming
next issue**

JAN HENLEY'S EASY
STRIPY SHAWL

September issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 1st August





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For more information, please contact: **Samantha Dean** - samantha.dean@aceville.co.uk 01206 505114

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5 Minute chat

Marilyn Dancy, owner of Jolly Stitcher

Tell us more about Jolly Stitcher

It's a family run business with my husband, Les, and daughter, Julie. We are coming up to our third birthday! We originally worked from home when it was just the website, local halls, and a mobile wool and fabric shop. Our success meant that we moved into our present premises just a few months after setting up the business in 2011, and secure online shopping is still available.

What makes Jolly Stitcher unique?

We try to give personal attention to all of our customers, whether it's helping with old patterns which need converting, or providing a home delivery service for the locals who are unable to get to the unit.

Which are your favourite yarns?

I love the Manos Lace, which handles beautifully and makes exquisite shawls and lightweight garments. Another of my favourites is Mirasol Miski, a 100% llama aran yarn which is lovely and soft!

How did you spend Yarn Shop Day?

It was great! We had a lot of support from the local community, and members of the knit and natter group set up a small craft table to sell some of their projects. We had free cake and drinks but we did ask for a small donation to our local charity (The Rainbow Centre).

What are you currently knitting?

Most knitters have several projects on the go, and I'm no exception! I am currently knitting an Aran jumper for my father, a Topsy Turvy doll for my granddaughters, and a pair of socks.

Find out more at www.jolly-stitcher.co.uk or call 01329 608017.

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Home Sweet Home

Let's Crochet Again is a new book by Rico Design featuring 45 colourful crochet ideas and patterns for your home. Get it for £12.99 from **01803 524402**, www.knittingwooland yarn.co.uk



Get Crafty!

Asomo Crafts is a lovely workshop space in Hampshire's Hartley Wintley which runs classes for both kids and adults, as well as selling eco-friendly craft materials such as yarns, paints and cards. Great for polishing up your skills or keeping kids entertained! Find out more at **01252 844210**, www.asomocrafts.co.uk



Hook up!

There's nothing like a string of bunting to bring some extra cheer to a room! Learn to crochet granny squares with these colourful kits by One Half Treble, available exclusively from Diss Wool and Crafts. The kits contain Katia Bombay yarn, plain cotton 4ply and a 3.5mm KnitPro crochet hook. For more, contact **01379 650640**, www.disswoolandcrafts.com

Mrs Crochet

If you were inspired by our crochet feature (page 61) then there is a whole world of new projects and techniques just waiting to be discovered! Buy and download these pretty patterns by [mrscrochetdesigner](http://mrscrochetdesigner.com) direct from her website, grab your hook, and get crocheting! www.mrscrochetdesigner.com



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Sarah Neal, Let's Knit Editor

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Turn the TABLES

Keep these pages handy to guide you on your way

YARN WEIGHTS

ABBREVIATIONS

o	no stitches, times or rows	RS	right side
-	no stitches, times or rows for that size	skpo	slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
alt	alternate	sk2po	slip next stitch purlwise, knit two together, pass slipped stitch over and off needle
approx	approximately	sl 2, k1, p2sso	slip next two stitches knitwise at the same time, knit one, pass both slipped stitches over
beg	beginning	sl 1	slip one stitch
bet	between	sl st	slip stitch
C4F	(cable 4 front) slip two stitches on to cable needle, hold at front of work, k2, k2 from cable needle	sm	slip marker
C4B	(cable 4 back) slip two stitches onto cable needle, hold at back of work, k2, k2 from cable needle	sp (s)	space(s)
ch	chain stitch	ssk	one by one slip the next two stitches knitwise. Put your left needle through the front loops of both slipped stitches and knit them together
ch sp	chain space	st (s)	stitch (es)
circ	circular needles	st st	stocking stitch (k on RS row, p on WS row)
cm	centimetres	tbl	through the back loop (s)
cn	cable needle	tr	treble crochet
cont	continue (ing)	w&t	(on knit rows) take the yarn between the needles to the front of the work, slip the next stitch from the Left Hand needle to the Right Hand needle purlwise, take the yarn between the needles back to its original position, slip the stitch back to the Left Hand needle and turn
dc	double crochet		(on purl rows) take the yarn between the needles to the back of the work, slip the next stitch from the Left Hand needle to the Right Hand needle purlwise, take the yarn between the needles back to its original position, slip the stitch back to the Left Hand needle and turn
dc2tog	(insert hook into next stitch, yarn over hook, pull through loop) twice, yarn over hook, pull through all three loops on hook decrease (ing)	WS	wrong side
dec	decrease (ing)	wyib	with yarn in back
dpn(s)	double pointed needle(s)	wyif	with yarn in front
dtr	double treble crochet	yb	yarn back
fol	following	yfwd	yarn forward (between knit stitches)
htr	half treble crochet	yo	work yfwd/yon/yrn as appropriate
inc	increase (ing)	yoh	yarn over hook
k	knit	yon	yarn over needle (between a purl and a knit stitch)
kfb	knit into the front and the back of the next stitch	yrn	yarn round needle (between purl stitches and between a knit and a purl stitch)
k2tog	knit two stitches together	y2rn	wrap yarn twice around needle
kn	knitwise		• repeat instructions following the asterisk as many times as instructed
lp	loop		O[] work instructions inside the brackets as many times as instructed
m1	make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it		
m1p	make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it		
meas	measure (s)		
mm	millimeters		
N1 (2, 3)	needle 1 (2, 3)		
p	purl		
pb	place bead		
pfb	purl into the front and back of next st		
pm	place marker		
p2tog	purl two stitches together		
prev	previous		
pssso	pass slipped stitch over and off needle		
p2sso	pass two slipped stitches over and off needle		
pwise	purlwise		
rem	remain (ing)		
rep	repeat (ing)		
rev st st	reverse stocking stitch (p on RS row, k on WS row)		
rm	remove marker		

YARN TYPE	STANDARD TENSION	STANDARD NEEDLE SIZE
Lace	30-33 sts-36-50 rows	2mm-3mm
4ply	28 sts-36 rows	3.25mm
DK	22 sts-28 rows	4mm
Aran	18 sts-24 rows	5mm
Chunky	14 sts-19 rows	6.5mm
Super Chunky	9 sts-12 rows	10mm

NEEDLE SIZING

UK (mm)	U.S.A	Old UK/Canada
2	0	14
2.25	1	13
2.75	2	12
3	-	11
3.25	3	10
3.5	4	-
3.75	5	9
4	6	8
4.5	7	7
5	8	6
5.5	9	5
6	10	4
6.5	10 1/2	3
7	-	2
7.5	-	1
8	11	0
9	13	00
10	15	000
12	17	-
15	-	-
16	19	-
19	35	-
20	36	-
25	50	-



TENSION HEADACHE

It's really important to knit tension square before you begin a project. Not everybody knits the same way - some knit more tightly than others - and this will affect how the stitch pattern looks and the finished size of the item. Tension squares are usually presented like this:

22 sts x 30 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
4mm needles

To knit your tension square, cast on the instructed number of stitches, in this case 22, plus five more. Then, using the needle size and same stitch pattern given, work the instructed number of rows, plus five more. Using a ruler and taking your measurements from the centre of the square, count the number of stitches and number of rows over a 10cm square. If you have more than you should do, it means your knitting is a little tight and you may need to use larger needles. Similarly, if you have fewer stitches and rows, use smaller needles to get the correct tension.

"Using the correct size of needles for the yarn weight helps to produce a taut, neat fabric"



AT A LOOSE END?

Follow these steps for weaving in any tails of yarn:

1. Thread the yarn on to a tapestry needle and work with the WS of the project facing upwards.
2. Insert the needle under the loop of each stitch, and draw it through. Work it

up and down the loops of the stitches for 8cm. An alternative method is to weave through the back of the stitch, splitting the strand of yarn as you sew.

3. Cut the yarn close to the fabric.

NOTE: In colourwork, weave the yarn tails into the matching colour section.

SUBSTITUTION

There are many reasons to want to substitute the yarn given in a project, from price to colour selection, but there are some important points to remember.

- Choose a yarn with a similar tension to the suggested yarn. Match the tension given on the ball band of the yarns, as the pattern may use a different stitch. Remember to do a tension square in the new yarn before you begin.
- Consider the fibre content of the yarn and how this might affect the finished project. For example, cotton yarn will knit up very differently to a wool yarn.



■ Don't forget to check the care instructions of your new yarn. Not all yarns are machine washable.

■ Look at the meterage of the new yarn, rather than the weight of the ball. Not all 50g balls have the same meterage and you don't want to run short when nearing the end of your project.

ON THE BLOCKS

Blocking is the process of stretching and shaping your finished items to create the correct dimensions from the pattern and even out your stitches. It is also really useful for ensuring that pieces to be joined fit well together. There are a few different ways to achieve this, so check the information on the yarn ball band and pick the most suitable option.

Wet blocking: dampen the pieces so that they are wet through and gently squeeze out the excess water. Lay out the pieces and pin them to the correct measurements,

then leave them to dry. For delicate fibres and lace projects, you can just spritz the pieces with a water spray, rather than submerging them fully.

Steaming: lay a damp cloth over your work and gently iron over the top – do not iron directly on to your knitting. Continue to iron until the cloth is dry. Another option is to gently hover over your work with the iron and apply steam until the knitting relaxes, this is good for delicate projects and textured stitches. Pin to the desired measurements and allow to set.

Pattern UPDATES

Here at LK we try our hardest to make sure our patterns are free from errors, but sometimes they do slip through the net. Here you will find our latest pattern updates; we apologise for any inconvenience caused. If you have any queries about one of our patterns, please call **01206 508622** or email **support@letsknit.co.uk**. For further updates visit **www.letsknit.co.uk**

LK80, June Elton, p12

There is a missing row at the beginning of the Body. Here are the updated instructions:

- Foundation row: p
 - Row 1: kfb in each st to end. 12 sts
 - Row 2: p
 - Row 3: * k1, kfb in next st, rep from * to end. 18 sts
- Continue as written



Silverstone, p75

There is a missing symbol on the key as C3R has accidentally been duplicated. Here is the symbol for C3L.

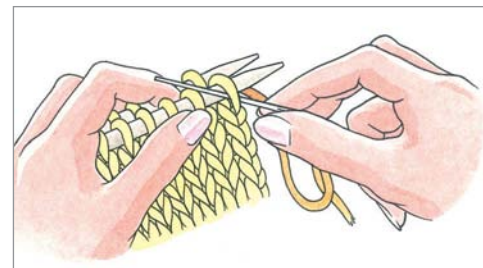


Step-BY-Step

Learn to knit today with these clear guides



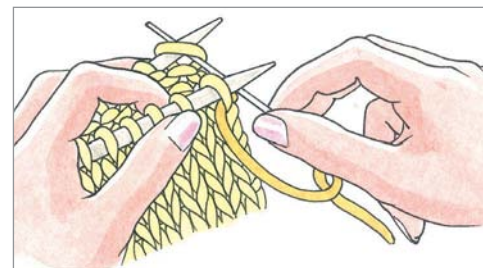
GRAFT THE TOE



Kitchener Stitch is the method used to achieve this. It is worked as follows:

SET UP: Before starting you need to prepare the stitches on the needle. Hold the two needles with the remaining stitches parallel. The loose end of yarn should be coming from the back needle and lying to the right of the work.

1 Thread yarn end onto a tapestry needle and insert it purlwise into the first stitch on the needle closest to you. Pull the yarn through but leave the stitch on the needle.



2 Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the back needle and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.



3 Having set up as shown in steps 1 and 2, repeat steps 3 and 4 until all stitches have been grafted. Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the front needle and slide the stitch off. Before you pull the yarn through this stitch insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the front needle purlwise and pull the yarn through, this time leaving the stitch on the needle.

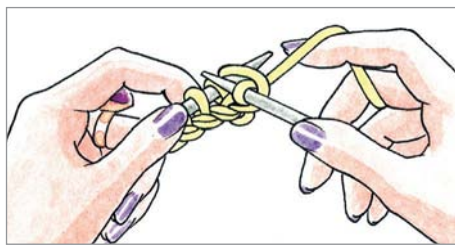


4 Insert the tapestry needle purlwise into the first stitch on the back needle and slide it off. Before pulling the yarn through this stitch, insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the back needle knitwise and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.

KNIT STITCH



1 Once cast on, insert the tip of the right needle upwards and from front to back into the top stitch on the left needle. The right hand needle should sit behind the left hand one. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the tip of the right hand needle.



2 Using the right hand needle, pull a loop of the wrapped yarn through the original stitch to create a new one on the right hand needle. Slide the original stitch off the left hand needle. Repeat from step one. You are now knitting! The knit stitch can be combined with other stitches to create hundreds of different stitch patterns.

HELPING HAND

If you need a refresher on basic knitting techniques, visit our website

www.letsknit.co.uk

You'll also find the following step-by-step instructions in the magazine:

inc (kfb): Albert, p18

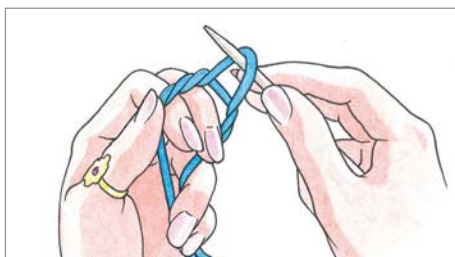
p2tog: Woodland, p46

ssk: Silver Lining, p77

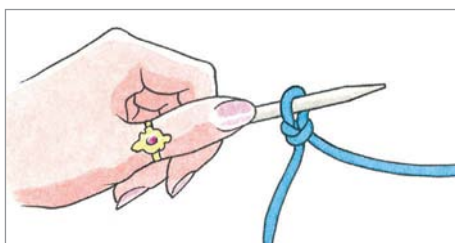
m1: Morning Dew, p13



MAKING A SLIP KNOT

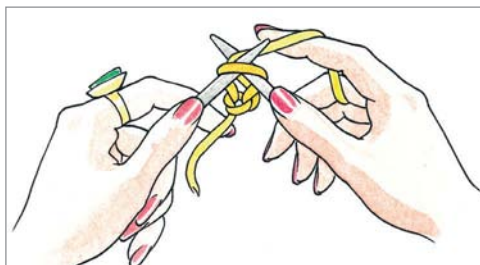


1 Holding the yarn under your left thumb, wrap it twice around your left index and middle fingers, with the second loop closer to the base of the fingers. With the backs of the fingers uppermost, insert the tip of the needle beneath the first loop and over the second, and pull the second loop under the first.

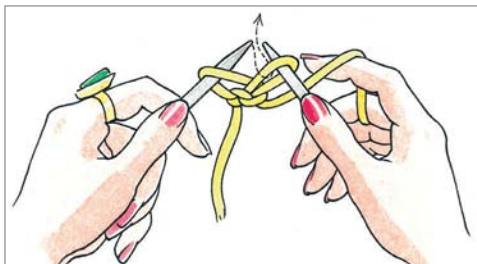


2 Remove the two fingers and gently tug on both ends of yarn to tighten the slip knot around the needle.

CABLE CAST ON



1 Create a slipknot on your left hand needle, pulling it taut (but not too tight). Carefully insert the right needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the point of the right needle.



2 Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch (knot) and insert the tip of the left hand needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer it from the right hand to the left hand needle. There should now be two stitches on the left hand needle.

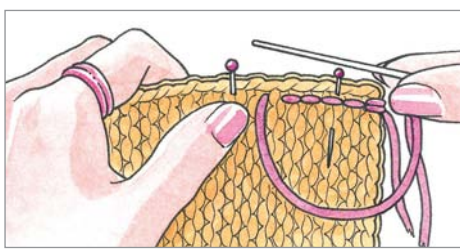


3 Insert the right needle between the two stitches on the left needle and wrap the yarn around the needle tip anticlockwise. Draw this loop through to make a stitch and slip it up and onto the left needle. Repeat this creating a new loop behind the last stitch and passing it left needle in front of the previous one.

BACK STITCH

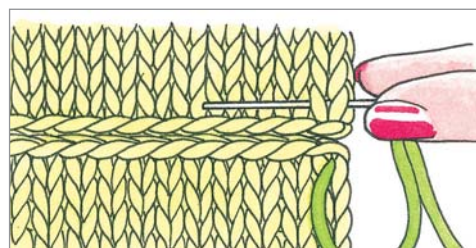


1 Pin the pieces to be joined, with the right sides together. Thread the loose end of yarn onto a tapestry needle. Start by stitching the two outer edges together, then bring the needle through the two pieces 1cm from back to front ahead of the previous stitch.

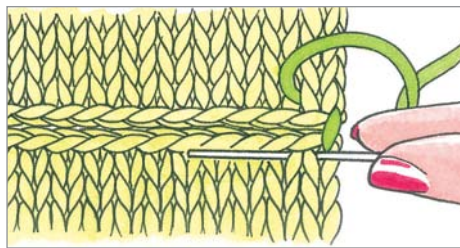


2 Push the needle back through at the position where the yarn emerged from the previous stitch. Return it to the front of the work, approx 1cm ahead of the stitch just made. Repeat this until the whole join is complete, working in a straight line.

JOINING CAST OFF EDGES

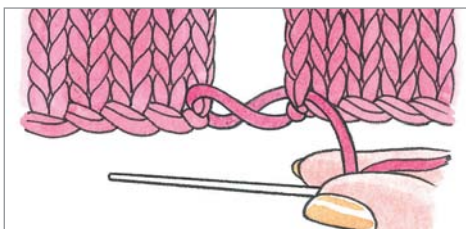


1 Lay the two pieces to be joined right side up and with the cast off edges touching. Thread a tapestry needle with the loose yarn and push this through the centre of the first stitch, and then in and out through the centres of two stitches on the opposite side.



2 Take the needle over to the first side and insert where it previously exited, bringing it out through the centre of the next stitch. Repeat this process alternating sides and stitching single stitches until the pieces are joined.

BEGINNING A SEAM



1 With the pieces placed next to each other with right side upwards, thread the yarn tail through the fabric after the first stitch, moving the needle from front to back. Then, take the needle behind the first stitch on the second piece from the back of the work to the front. The yarn will form a figure 8. Tug gently to secure.

MATTRESS STITCH



1 With the two pieces to be joined lying next to each other, hook the horizontal bar of the first stitch with the tapestry needle. Move to the other piece and hook the first horizontal bar of the stitch on that side.
2 Repeat this moving from one piece to the next and pulling the yarn to tighten the join.

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"I felt I could bring something new to the handknitting industry"

We've been talking to **Jenny Watson** about knitting for babies and her career in designing



As someone who learnt to knit from her mother, went on to teach her own children and make a career out of designing knitwear, Jenny Watson has an interest in bringing handknitting to the forefront of the fashion industry. She has authored four pattern books for her own yarns, including a range of garments, accessories and baby knits, plus collections for top brands, like Noro and West Yorkshire Spinners. We're all familiar with Jenny's designs and yarns but we spoke to her to find out a bit more about the woman behind the wool.

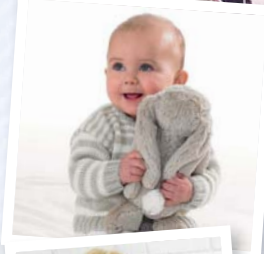
I began knitting when I was about 13 but I had been surrounded by knitting for many years. My mum was a brilliant knitter and created many complicated garments, which always fascinated me. Unfortunately she passed away nearly 30 years ago and never saw my career grow but I'm sure she would have been very proud.

I first got into designing because I needed a job. I had just been made redundant and I was offered a position at Hayfield Textiles as a handknitter. I didn't enjoy it; I knitted solidly for eight hours a day, but it was a job at least. I was then given the opportunity to do all Fair Isle and picture sweaters. I taught myself to maths-check and compile, worked hard and then became assistant designer. Since then, I have been chief designer for Robin, Emu, Studley and then Sirdar.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time as chief designer but found the long days and commuting meant I didn't spend enough time with my children.

As a freelance designer I still work long days and weekends but now I can walk to my offices in the centre of Ilkley. My biggest inspiration is the countryside near where I live in West Yorkshire. The Yorkshire Dales are close by and the ever-changing seasons are beautiful.

When I had children, knitwear for babies was quite uninspiring. I felt I could bring something new to the handknitting industry. These days you can get some wonderful



ready-made knitwear for babies and young children but I like to think that, with fashionable designs, I encourage young mums to learn to knit.

My daughter Ellie is joining me in September to learn the trade whilst doing a course in fashion at university. She has been actively interested in the knitting industry for a number of years, from sewing on buttons to photography shoots – she has been modelling in many of my books since she was nine months old! My two boys learnt to knit many years ago too. I have also taken on a young designer and I am in the process of teaching her.

The handknit market is very different to the ready-made market and I aim to bridge the gap fashion-wise. I hope that one day a high street

brand might launch a handknit collection along side its ready-made range on the catwalk. Quality yarns can be quite expensive, therefore fashionable designs hopefully encourage and inspire knitters. My advice to new knitters is 'don't be afraid to have a go'. You can always pull it back, unlike sewing, where once the fabric is cut, that's it. Try different colours and make things your own.

To see more of Jenny's designs, go to www.jennywatsondesigns.co.uk



TOP FIVE

Jenny's top choice of yarns in her stash

- 1 JW Pure Merino** – I love the pink and the yarn is so soft.
- 2 JW Babysoft DK** – The colour palette is lovely and the yarn knits up well.
- 3 Noro Silk Garden** – I love how the colours blend from one into another.
- 4 James C. Brett Rustic Mega Chunky** – It's so big and knits up quickly.
- 5 King Cole Baby Alpaca DK** – It's a delight to knit with.

coming next issue

SUE STRATFORD gives us an insight into her world.
September issue of Let's Knit on sale 1st August



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